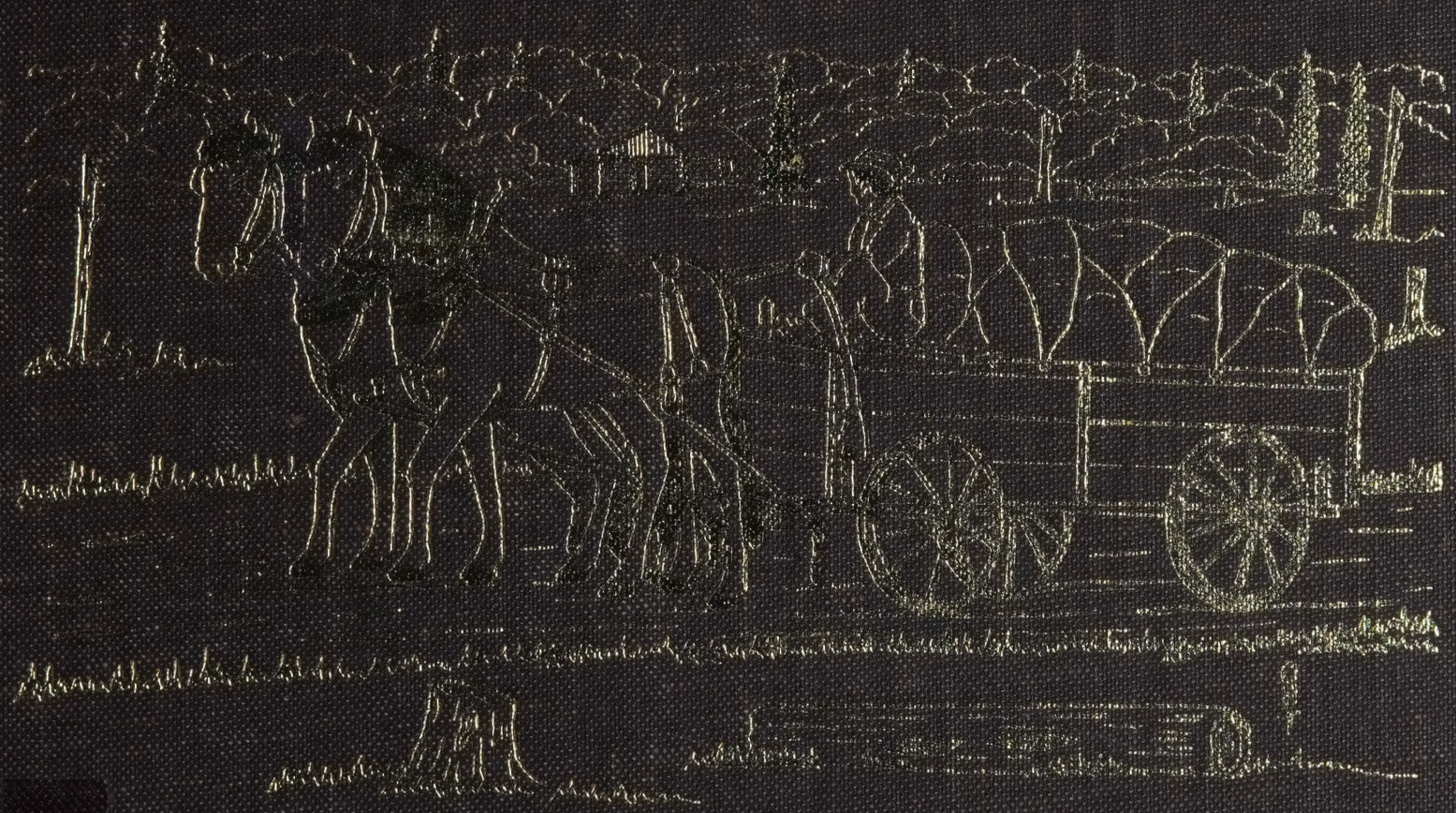


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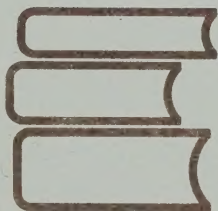
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Volume II

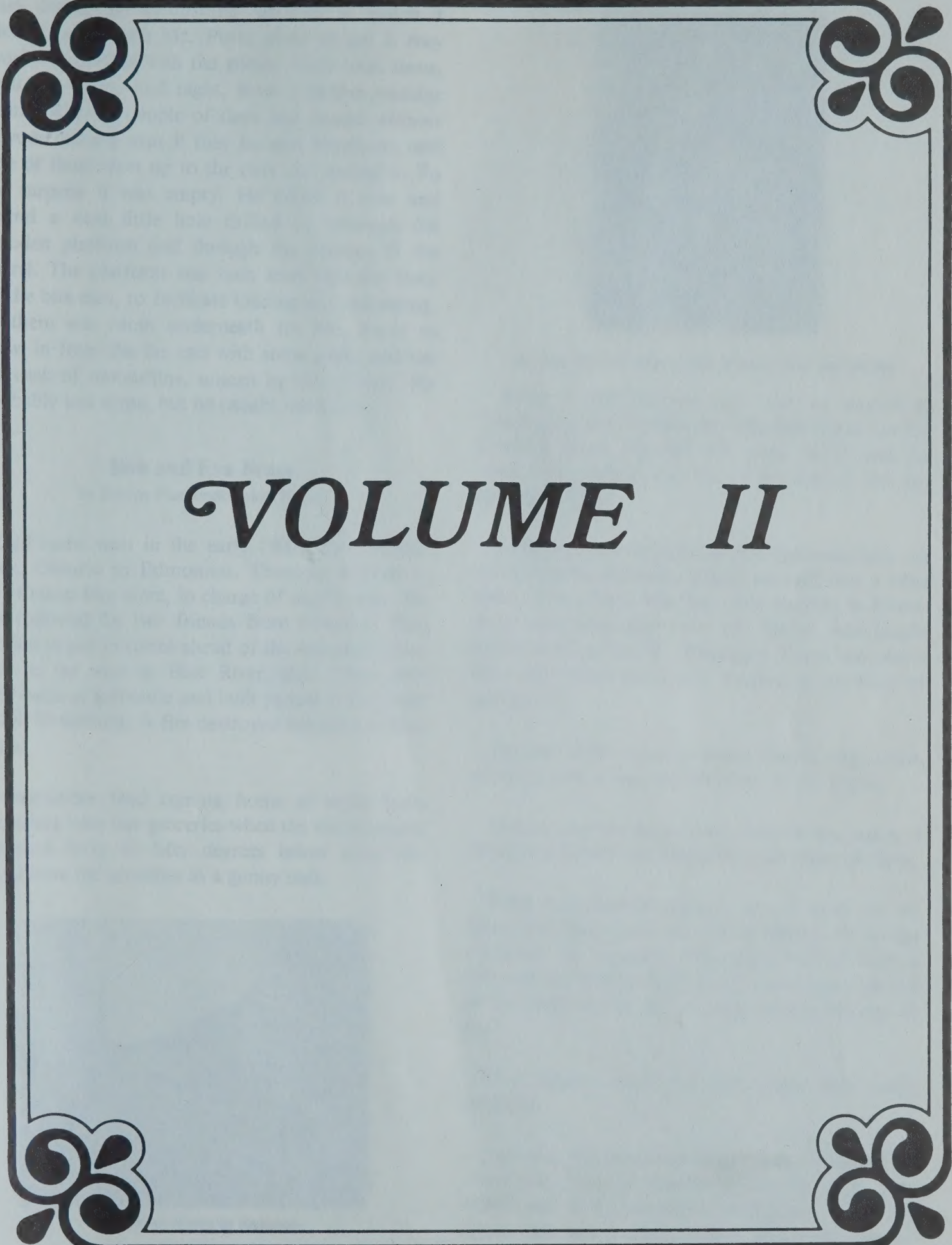
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VOLUME II

cask contained moonshine, decided to watch it closely, and when Mr. Purin came to get it they would catch him with the goods. They took turns, watching it day and night, from a hidden vantage point. When a couple of days had passed without anyone coming near it they became impatient, and one of them went up to the cask and kicked it. To his surprise it was empty. He rolled it over and found a neat little hole drilled up through the wooden platform and through the bottom of the barrel. The platform was built level with the floor of the box cars, to facilitate loading and unloading, so there was room underneath for Mr. Purin to crawl in from the far end with some pails, and tap the cask of moonshine, unseen by the officers. He probably lost some, but he caught most of it.

Bob and Eva Bruce

by Dorine Plamondon (nee Bruce)

Dad came west in the early 1900s from Woodstock, Ontario to Edmonton. There he worked in the Hudson Bay store, in charge of men's wear. He was followed by two friends from Ontario. They decided to put in stores ahead of the railroads. They went as far west as Blue River, B.C. Then they came back to Entwistle and built proper stores there and in Evansburg. A fire destroyed the store in Entwistle.

I remember Dad coming home at night from Evansburg with our groceries when the thermometer registered forty or fifty degrees below zero. He would have the groceries in a gunny sack.



The Bruce house in Entwistle.



Mr. and Mrs. R. Bruce with children Don and Dorine.

When I was thirteen years old we moved to Evansburg, and bought the Mitchell house on the Lobstick River. As the two room school and the store were right at the top of the hill we did not have far to go.

In that school we had our first male teachers. At the Entwistle one-room school we had first a Miss Bean, then a Mrs. MacNutt. The teachers in Evansburg that I remember were Mr. Green, who taught high school, and a Mr. Kingsbury. There was also a Mr. Johnstone who later became a member of parliament.

Because of the mine we had a skating rink, a tennis court, and a baseball diamond by the school.

Hockey was the main sport, with visiting teams. I remember Edson and Magnolia were some of them.

What a wonderful place it was to grow up in! Mum and Dad skied too. On a Sunday we would ski down the Lobstick. We would stop to build a fire, and my brother Don and I would pick coal out of the banks for it, so we could have a hot cup of tea.

Mr. Seppola made the skis. They were really beautiful.

I do not remember anything being organized in those days, except maybe sports day July 1st., which was at Evansburg or Wildwood. I do not think there was a school board, and there were no

mail carriers. We picked up our mail at Bell's store. There was also a phone there, the only one in town, I believe.

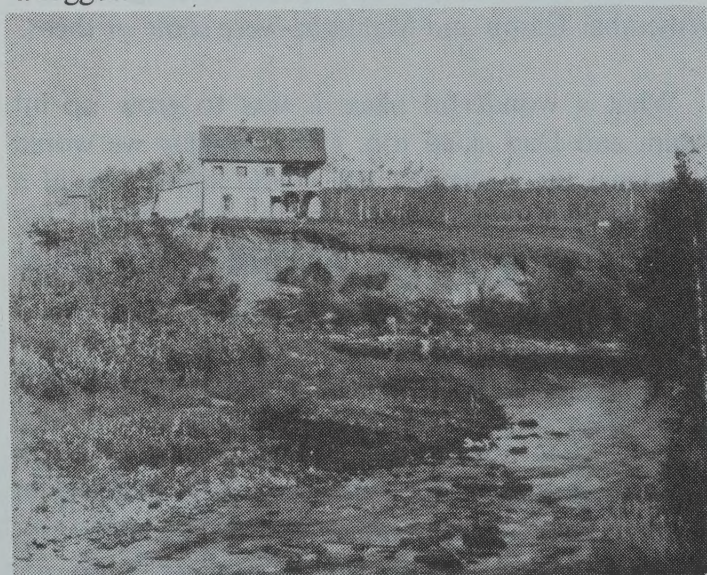
Dad left his store about 1940, and my husband, Ed Wilson, helped Mr. Macphee. A year later we came out to Vancouver, and Dad and Mum settled on Galiano Island. Dad soon had work in the Burril's Store. When they put the store up for sale Ed and I and our daughter moved there, and Dad and Ed were partners. In 1950 Ed died and two years later I remarried and moved to Campbell River.

In the early sixties a house next to mine was for sale. Mum and Dad came to Campbell River and bought the house, so I could look after them and they could have better medical care. My Dad died at ninety years of age in 1972. His ashes were scattered off the shore of Galiano Island.

Mother is now eighty-nine years old and in good health, but needing constant care because of senility. She is in a beautiful nursing home and well looked after.

My daughter Lynne, who was born in the "Red House" in Evansburg, lives here and has two sons. My son, Bruce, also lives here and has two daughters.

Lynne works at the telephone office and Bruce is a logger.



The Bruce house in Evansburg by the Lobstick River.



MRS. EVA BRUCE

Alberta Writer Publishes Book

A new Alberta novelist has appeared in the person of Mrs. Eva (R. D.) Bruce, late of Evansburg, with the publication this week by Ives and Washburn Inc., New York, of her novel of Canadian life, "Call Her Rosie!"

The scenes are laid in a New Ontario village and later in western Canada. Rosie, the resourceful heroine of the story, has her troubles with "Pa," a broken-down horse trader with no hope but in a lottery ticket, and "Ma," a former lady of the circus, whose only cultural delight is in the pages of the *Police Gazette*.

There are a string of lesser figures in the Dapris family and a moving background of village characters of varied type.

Mrs. Bruce, who is a graduate of Aberdeen university and has made her home in Alberta for the past 20 years until her recent removal to Galiano island, on the B.C. coast, had previously won distinction in the short story field. The dramatic quality of the story is such that the publishers have been in negotiation with Hollywood interests while the story was still in proof form.

Lorna Moon, who at the time of her death a few years ago was chief scenist for Cecil de Mille, was a sister of Mrs. Bruce and began her writing career on Edmonton newspapers during construction days.

The same vivid gift for character depiction and dialogue which enabled her "Min and Bill" to become the most popular film of its year, is notable in this new story of Canadian life and effort, marked by episodes of humor and tragedy.

Mrs. Eva Bruce as writer.



Dorine and Donald Bruce



Mr. and Mrs. R. Bruce

History of the Bruce Family, after Evansburg

In 1940, "Bob" Bruce, on his doctor's orders, left Evansburg for Galiano, one of the islands of the Gulf of Georgia. Mrs. Eva Bruce followed, and a year later, their son Donald. They took over an old house on high ground overlooking Active Pass. Cleared of encroaching growth and renovated, this house became the subject of several artists.

The Bruce family, soon augmented by Dorine and her husband Ed Wilson, took charge for a time of the nearby General Store. The Wilsons had brought their little girl, Lynne, and some years later had a boy, Bruce. Ed was instrumental in organizing the Galiano Power Development that brought electricity to the island. Bruces and Wilsons

alike were held in high regard on the island, and Mrs. Bruce, following the publishing of her novel "Call Her Rosie" became something of a literary celebrity.

Her name was already established as a writer of short stories, and this book made her publishers eager for her next novel. She actually began the opening chapters of a book based on the life in the construction camps of the C.N.R. in Alberta. This beginning showed great promise but it was never completed. Meanwhile, "Call Her Rosie" was published in England, in Pocket Edition, with a publication especially for the Armed Forces.

The Wilsons, who had settled for a time on Lulu Island, had a home built near the Bruces. Ed died from a heart complaint of long standing when his son was still an infant. After a period, Dorine married again, becoming Mrs. Ivor Sater, and moved with her husband and two children to Campbell River, where she still resides.

Her daughter Lynne was married there to Ralph Dick, who established a prosperous tree planting industry. Their two sons are Ralph Jr. and Robbie.

Meantime, Donald Bruce had soon left the island for Vancouver, where during the war years he worked in the shipyards as foreman, "moonlighting" by publishing "Technocracy Digest", the official Canadian magazine for Technocracy Inc. of New York. With the close of the war, he continued officially as Editor, and as Continental Director for Canada of this socio-economic organization which continued first among his many interests as long as he lived. He also married in 1945, Fraser (Bertie) Black, whose background of English honours at U.B.C. made her a useful assistant in his writing and editing. For some years he was Associate Editor for the Journal of Commerce publication of architects and contractors.

Donald's next post was at the B.C. Automobile Association, where he assumed the heavy load of Public Relations Officer plus creating and editing

their popular magazine B.C. Motorist and acting as representative on the Civic Traffic and Safety Board.

Meantime he was writing for various publications, such as the Federal Bureau of Tourism, and speaking on radio and television for Technocracy.

A splendid source of interest and activity was the Vancouver Natural History Society. Again, he found himself on executive (twice voted President) and conservation committees. But there were fascinating birding expeditions to various parts of the Province and with his wife he had many Tree Tours, trees being one subject of expertise. Fraser Bruce at this time was on the Board of Governors of the Vancouver Public Aquarium.

Sixteen years of heavy duty with the B.C.A.A. led him to change his work. He now joined the Executive of Canada Post, the Western Division (Manitoba - N.W. Territories) of the Federal Post Office, as Manager of Media Relations and Editorial Services. He was also President of the Press Club (all media).

For recreation there were music, art, and the building of a personal library which the U.B.C. Library will in time add to its great collection. A fitting memorial for one so passionately fond of books. From these achievements it will be readily understood that his untimely death in 1978 was attended by so thronged a funeral and marked by floods of messages and flowers.

Donald Bruce was always a modest and gentle man, whose sense of humour helped to win him many friends.

It is nice to know that the year before his death he enjoyed a leisurely month in Spain and Portugal, a last idyll. He died serene in his Christian faith.

He was indeed a son of whom Evansburg and Entwistle could be proud, and retained a warm affection for his native towns. With his wife, he made a fleeting visit to Evansburg and Entwistle in about

1976, when he had been invited to Edmonton to establish a new branch of Technocracy.

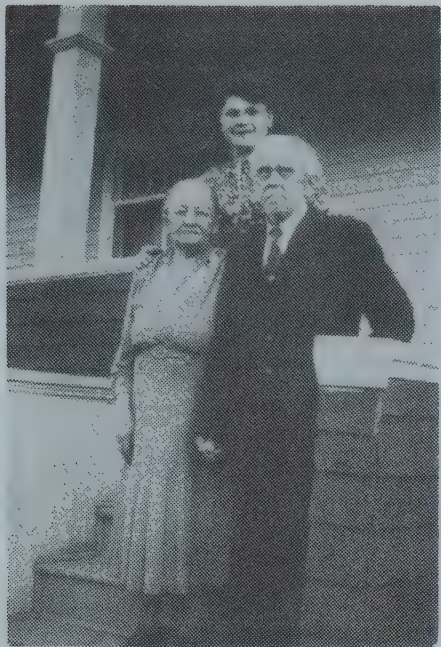
He found his own beloved fishing hole, now part of Pembina Provincial Park and had pleasure in identifying various features of the towns.

Stefan (Steve) Mazeppa

Stefan was born in Nistanicy, Province of Galicija, Austria in the year of 1860. He and his wife Olena (Helen) had twelve children: Michael, Tom, Anna (Annie), Mary, Katie, Billie, Alex, Pete and Nellie (born in the old country) and Joe, Jennie and Jewlene (Jean) born in Canada.

Steve left his home in Pawlew, Province of Galicija, in 1904 and came to Strathcona, Alberta. In 1906 he located a homestead in the Vermilion area. He told Department of Lands that he would take this land. However, he did not pay for the land at that time as he did not know when he would be back. He then returned to the old country and the following year, in July of 1907, he returned to Canada with his wife and eight children. They arrived at the Immigration Hall in Strathcona where they stayed for about two weeks. Steve went to Vermilion to pay for the land he had spoken for, only to find another man there breaking the land. The family then went to Vegreville for another brief stay and then went on to Carvel where Steve took a homestead. The family stayed on a neighboring farm owned by a bachelor, Jackyl Getzinger, and lived in a small shack on his land. They worked as helpers to Getzinger. The homestead at Carvel was nothing but a bed of rocks so they relinquished their rights to this land.

When Steve heard that land was opening up for homesteading west of the Pembina River, he and his son Tom started out on foot to look for land. While walking along Wabamun Lake, they managed to catch a fish in a stream. As they had no way of cooking it, they carried it until they reached a camp where they traded the fish for a meal. They proceeded west to Entwistle where they found a camp and stopping place. They had to climb down



Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Mazeppa and granddaughter.

a ladder to get to the Pembina River to where a man had a boat to take workmen across for the purpose of cutting bush on the west side of the river. Steve filed for the first homestead west of the Pembina River and another quarter was filed for his son Tom. Steve chose the SE 24-53-8-W5th and Tom took the NE 24-53-8-W5th.

In the spring of 1908, Steve and his family left Carvel and headed west. This was a major undertaking. With a team of oxen, two cows with calves and one sow, they travelled along the Foley Trail. The Foley Trail was just a narrow trail through the bush country. Sometimes the mud puddles were so deep that the oxen (Charlie and Frank) almost had to swim, but their mighty team was always reliable and got them through. They slept mostly under the stars. Sometimes they built a lean-to out of willows and grass. Steve and Tom returned to Carvel several times to pick up their belongings and some lumber. They travelled west again but were only able to stash their belongings in the bush and go back to Carvel for another load. In the meantime they lost some of their goods to thieves who found their stash. On one of these trips, Tom had his arm broken when they were trying to haul the wagon up a steep hill and it rolled back over his arm. There was no doctor available so Steve set the arm by stretching it and binding it tight with some cardboard and a gunnysack and it was left to heal. The

arm was checked by a doctor at a later date.

After arriving at the homestead, the family spent the first summer living in a tent. Some of the children slept in a lean-to built around the wagon. When the sow decided it would be nice to sleep with the children, they quickly built a corral to put her in. During this time they cleared only enough land for the buildings. They built the first two-room log cabin which they covered with sod. When this roof started to leak, they simply put on another layer of sod. They also built a small barn for the cattle.

The first winter Steve and his eldest son, Tom, went to work at a camp building the Grand Trunk Pacific Railroad. They were able to obtain some of their food and supplies from the camp but anything else that was needed had to be brought from Stony Plain by ox team. This took a week. Steve bought another team of oxen at Stony Plain Auction. Some of the hills were so steep that in the winter they had to use a "roughlock" (chains wrapped over the sleigh runners) with one team of oxen in front and the other team holding back behind the sleigh. In summer they used a similar method by inserting a piece of timber between the spokes of the wagon wheel from one wheel to the other so that the wheels would drag instead of rolling, therefore acting as brakes. Other settlers came and settled along the railroad. They got to know some of these settlers and were able to stay overnight when making these trips for supplies.

Steve and Tom worked with the oxen for the railroad, hauling pilings and also hauling freight, first by oxen and later with a team of horses, as far west as Tete Jaune Cache in the early years of homesteading. Steve then settled into farming until his retirement in 1933. Then he and his wife moved to Edmonton where they lived for their remaining days. Steve passed away in 1943 and Helen died August 27, 1958.

Steve and Helen Mazeppa's children:

Michael Mazeppa - died at a young age in the old country.



Mazeppa Family

Top (L—R) Tom Mazeppa, four men from Carvel. Middle Row, 2 men from Carvel, Stefan Mazeppa holding Joe. Olena Mazeppa holding Jennie, Ludwig Mazeppa holding Nellie, ? Front Row - Pete, Katy, Alex and Bill.

Tom Mazeppa - married Mary Swystun. They had seven children: Anne, Michael, twins - John and Steve, Lill, Helen and Danny.

Annie - married Ben Miller. They had two children: Ferguson and Adelaine.

Mary - married Emmot Brown. They had three daughters: Amber, married to Art Steers, Katherine, married to Charles Seim and MaryAnne.

Katie - married Joe Filipowicz. They had twelve children: Karl, Frances, Walter, Harriet, Jewline, Evelyn, Chester, Bernard, Bengie, Harold, Katherine and Beverly.

Billie Mazeppa - married Minnie Nykolyn. They had six children: Karl, Alice, James, Roy, Lawrence and a daughter (stillborn).

Alex Mazeppa - married with no family (no details available).

Pete Mazeppa is single. He served in the Spanish

Civil War, apparently was captured, held prisoner many years and died shortly after his release. He is buried in Spain.

Nellie - married Alex Couteret. They had two children: Rene and Joan.

Joe Mazeppa - married Albina Shuishetcki. They had two sons: Roger and Wayne.

Jennie married a Copper. They had two sons: Skip and Warren and one stillborn child. Jennie passed away and is buried in Edmonton.

Jean - married Gordon Fallis. They had no children. They are presently living in Vancouver.

Tom Mazeppa

as told by Michael Mazeppa

Tom Mazeppa was born November 14, 1885 in Nistanicy, Province of Galicija, Austria. Mary Swystun was born on July 15, 1887. They were married February 27th, 1913. They were the first

white couple to be married west of the Pembina River. They had seven children: Annie, Michael, twins - John and Steve, Lill, Helen and Danny.

Tom moved to Evansburg the spring of 1908 from Carvel (then known as Manley). Mary immigrated to Winnipeg in November, 1911, and then came to Evansburg in 1913. Tom and Mary's first home was on the homestead in a one-room shack. They later built a two-room house which is still standing.

In the early years in the Evansburg area, Tom worked with his dad on the Grand Trunk Pacific Western Railroad building crew and later, when coal was discovered in Evansburg and the mine began operating in 1914, he worked as a blacksmith's helper, and tracklayer in the mine.

In 1920 Tom bought a threshing machine, gas engine, buzz saw and crusher from John Bjornstad. In the fall he would thresh for the farmers north, east and west of Evansburg with wagons and end up by putting the machine on the sleigh to finish the threshing when they had an early winter. During the winter months he, with the help of Elisha Elton Mattice and Alex MacDiarmid, would crush grain and saw wood in the Rochfort Bridge, Sangudo and Stanger areas. Tom had a team of horses named Kid and Fred that were so well trained that if you told them to move an inch, that is all they would move. These horses were used as the lead team hauling ties south of Granada. In the summer Tom and Mr. A. Bjornstad would work building roads. Tom also worked on the Pembina River road and in the 1920s he maintained the Jasper Highway to Wildwood.

In 1930 Tom bought a caterpillar tractor to break land but this did not work out well. He then bought a cross-mounted Case Tractor 1527, but he and his sons were unable to get all the land broke when the depression came. When the depression got worse and they were unable to sell anything in order to buy gas to run the machine, they trained their five Holstein steers to break land. They also used these steers to haul wood to the Relief Camp by the Pembina River, cut grain and even to grade roads,



The Tom Mazeppa Family
B.R. Annie, Lill, Mr. Mazeppa, Mike and Helen. (Seated) John, Mrs. Mazeppa and Steve and in front is Danny.

and skid logs in the bush. These steers were later sold to Karl Kobel who in turn sold them to someone in Nova Scotia.

In 1932 Tom broke his arm in three places, while cutting wood, which laid him up for most of the winter. In the spring, when he returned to the farm, he came down with rheumatic fever which kept him in bed for over six weeks. His wife Mary and the young family had to look after the farm. The eldest son Mike had to stay home from school to help do the farming.

Tom then worked on his farm and helped in the family logging and lumber sawing business. He remained on the farm until 1980 when he and his wife Mary went to live in Whitecourt with their daughter Helen (Mrs. Bud Eshpeter), her husband and son Michael. He also spent a couple of months with his children (Steve and Danny) in Edmonton. He then took up residence for one and a half years in the Sunshine Lodge in Evansburg. On February 27, 1983 Tom and Mary celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. Tom passed away March 21, 1983.

Children of Tom and Mary:

Annie married Roy Crago (both deceased). They had one daughter, Maryanne, who is married to

Greg Griffin and they have two sons, Sean and Wade.

Mike married Stella Stecyk October 18, 1952. They have two sons, Allan and Ken. Allan is married to Cathy Bush - they have one daughter Dawn Marie. Ken is engaged to Shirley Romanchuk of Moon Lake.

John married Lorraine Lentz June 18, 1966 - no children.

Steve married Florence Riddle April 18, 1954. They have one son Tommy and are presently living in Edmonton.

Lill married H. Jim Carlson February 29th, 1944. They have two children: Barbara Lee and Keith. Keith and his wife Sue have one daughter Sage and are presently living in Australia. Lill and Jim are presently living in Keremeos, B.C.

Helen married Francis (Bud) Eshpeter July 12, 1952. They have three children: David, Robert and Michael. Helen, Bud and Michael are presently living in Whitecourt. David married Laura Boisvert. They have no children. Robert and his wife Wanda have three children: Brendin, Terra and Derek.

Daniel married Mavis Wigley. They have no children. They are presently living in Edmonton.

Mike and John remained on the family farm and are farming in partnership.

Joe Mazeppa

Joe Mazeppa was born December 22nd, 1907. He married Albina Shuishetcki in Buchanon, Saskatchewan on October 6th, 1936. They had two sons: Roger, born on September 16, 1939 and Wayne born June 23, 1950.

After his school days, Joe went to work in sawmills, on the railroad for a few years and then worked in the mine in Evansburg for a few years. He then went to the Crow's Nest Pass where he also worked in a mine. He went harvesting, then went



Joe and Jewelene, Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Mazeppa.

back to the Evansburg mine and then went back to the Crow's Nest Pass where he worked in the Maple Leaf Mine for a few years. He took a break from mining one summer and tried his hand at looking for gold. He returned to the Evansburg mine. The last year spent there he saw the rails pulled out and the mine closed down. Joe tried his hand at farming for a few years but decided to sell out and moved to Rossland where he started working in the Trail Smelter. He worked at the smelter until the day he retired which was a total of twenty-six and a half years. Joe is a widower and is now living in Rossland where he is enjoying his retirement and the occasional fishing trip and visits to see members of his family.

Roger married Shiela Wandler June 20th, 1959. They have two sons: Ricky born June 19th, 1961 and Mark born August 24, 1963. They are living in Aldergrove, B.C.

Wayne married Sadie MacAuly September 2nd, 1972. They have three children, Andrea born October 19th, 1977, Collin born February 9th, 1979 and Carolyn born November 29th, 1981. They are presently living in Prince George, B.C.

William (Bill) Mazeppa

Bill Mazeppa was born February 16, 1895 to Stefan and Helen Mazeppa in Nistanicy, in the Province of Galicija, Austria. Minnie Nykolyn was born March 7, 1907 in Wolycia also in the Province of Galicija, to Harry and Mary Nykolyn. William immigrated to Canada with his parents and brothers and sisters in 1907 and Minnie immigrated alone in 1928. They met at Carvel, Alberta where Minnie was living with an uncle. Minnie and William were married in Edmonton August 10th, 1929. They had six children: Karl, Alice, James, Roy, Lawrence and a daughter who had been stillborn and is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

William and Minnie were born of farming families and continued to work as farmers in Alberta as their primary occupation. Involvement in railroad construction was significant in the beginning in the Evansburg area to the Mazeppa family to get a start. Like so many others who immigrated to Canada, they left the old country to try and find a better life here where land was available.

Bill came to the Evansburg District as a young lad of thirteen years of age, and lived on the first homestead west of the Pembina River with his parents, brothers and sisters. When the children were young, it was their duty to go and round up the cows for milking. One of Bill's sisters mistook a bear for a steer and was going to round it up too. To this day she claims it took her only three steps to make the mile to her home.

The first few years were spent working on the homestead. Then off and on Bill worked hauling freight for the railroad, by ox team - even as far as Pocahontas. He worked with his brother Tom, in the coal mine in 1914 and off and on until 1933. The mine closed down in 1936. Bill had also worked in other mines at Nordegg, Alexo and Saunder's Creek before 1929 when he married Minnie Nykolyn. They lived in the Village of Evansburg for about six months. Then they rented his parents' farm and worked it until 1933 when they took their own homestead, the N.E. corner of Section 6. This



The Mazeppa's - Bill, Joe, Alex and Tom.

was three miles south of his parents' homestead. That was during the "Great Depression". By then they had two children, Karl and Alice. They had built only a one room log house and had to fill the cracks between the logs before winter came. They were very tough and lean years, with four more children born by 1942.

In the fall of 1942, Bill left the family on the homestead and went to Mercoal to work in the coal mine to earn a better living. He moved the family to Mercoal a year later. They lived in Mercoal until the mine closed in 1959. They moved to Edmonton in August of 1959 and lived there for a year before moving back to Evansburg in 1960. They both worked in the hotel as janitors for six years and then at the Evansview Elementary School for about four years before retiring and building their present house at 4836 - 46 Avenue. Their former house was one they bought and moved out from Mercoal and is located at 4807 - 50th Street. They have been at their present address since October of 1973.

Children of Bill and Minnie Mazeppa:

Karl was born July 16, 1930. He married Irene. They have one son Darcy. They are now living in Surrey, B.C.

Alice was born August 30, 1931. She married Alan Campbell. They have four children: Anne, Gordon, Caroline and David. Anne is married to

Cameron Graham and they have two children, Malcolm and Joel. They are presently living in Edmonton.

James (Jim) was born on March 2, 1935. He is divorced. The two children, Derick and Carson are presently living in Edmonton.

Roy was born November 29, 1937. He is divorced. There is one adopted daughter, Jennifer.

Lawrence was born March 4, 1942. He is single and is now living in Vancouver.

Michael (Mike) Mazeppa

Michael (Mike) was born November 4th, 1917. He married Stella Stecyk on October 18, 1952. They have two sons Allan and Kenneth.

Like most young boys, Mike and his brothers, John and Steve, had to help with the farming. The family was trying to get established on their homestead and the father was away from home working to supplement their farm income. In 1932, when Mike's father broke his arm and later was laid up with rheumatic fever, he found he had to leave school in order to do the farming on a full time basis. He was only fourteen years old at the time. Prior to that he attended school in Evansburg. The following summer Mike and his Uncle Joe Mazeppa decided to break some land. They took a tractor breaking plow and hitched up their team of horses together with ten other horses borrowed from neighbors and broke fifteen acres. Mike rode one of the horses in the middle and drove the lead team. The following year Mike broke ten acres with eight horses. In the 1930s Mike and his brothers, John and Steve, also broke land with a lead team of horses along with three oxen. These oxen were used for numerous duties on the farm as well as grading roads and skidding logs in the bush. During the winter Mike went to Birch Hills to haul hay and logs to the saw mill for the homesteaders. The Birch Hills area was all virgin timber. In 1937 Mike went to Cabri, Saskatchewan and bought a Case Threshing Machine. He threshed Evansburg, Park Court and Wildwood areas with this machine.



Mike and Stella Mazeppa.

As times got a little better, they bought a cross-mounted Case 1527 tractor and then a 2240 cross-mounted Case tractor. They did breaking in the Evansburg area for some of their neighbors as well as on their own land. By 1940 they were able to purchase a new Oliver 80 tractor which helped to lessen their manual labour.

In 1942 the Mazeppa Brothers purchased a second-hand saw mill and did custom sawing at Bonko's place for one year and Sereda's farm for one year. In 1944, they bought a new Coutts saw mill and sold the old mill. They moved the mill to Bill Keen's land. It was then moved onto the homestead where they cut poplar lumber. Later they moved the mill fourteen miles south of Wildwood and did sawing for Eccles. In 1945, Mazeppa bought an Oliver 99 tractor, on rubber, which was used for sawing lumber and farming. They quit sawing in 1951 and sold the mill in 1953.

Mike and his brother John farm in partnership. They had a dairy herd for a number of years and also had a school bus. They are now mainly in the business of raising beef cattle and some grain.

The early homesteading years were hard work but weren't without their lighter moments. When there was a dance in one of the district halls, Mazeppas would pick up a load of young people and head for the dance. In the warm weather they used their



Allan and Kenneth Mazeppa.

wagon and in the winter months they would hitch a team to a sleigh. They were kept warm by taking along bricks that had been heated. While they danced and enjoyed the evening's entertainment, they would put the bricks on the stove to keep warm for their journey home.

Mike is well known in this district for his involvement with numerous organizations. He was a Municipal Councillor for Pembina M.D. No. 94 before it was dissolved, and President of the Farmers' Union of Canada - Alberta Section (formed in 1942 and is now known as Unifarm.). He served on the Advisory Board in I.D. 78 (now I. D. 14) for six to seven years. He was scoutmaster and assistant scoutmaster for a number of years. He held the office of President for a time on the U.G.G. Board of Directors. He held the office of president of the Wildwood and District Agriculture Society for four years. He was president for one year in the West Central Forage Association and is now a director. He is active in the 4-H 16A Tractor Club. He has been a volunteer fireman for twenty-seven years. In 1981 he received a plaque in honour of his twenty-five years as a fireman. Mike is also president of the Pembina Lobstick Museum Association.

Mike lost his right arm just above the wrist in a farm accident, when his hand was caught in the intake of the round baler, on July 25th, 1977. After his convalescence he has been able to resume his farming career.

Mike and Stella Mazeppa have two children.

Allan was born September 6, 1953. He married Cathy Bush on September 30, 1978. They have a daughter, Dawn Marie, born February 6, 1982.

Kenneth was born August 1st, 1955. He is engaged to marry Shirley Romanchuk of Moon Lake.

Steve Mazeppa

Stefan (Steve) was born October 27, 1920. He was educated in Evansburg. On leaving High School in June, 1940, he attended Vocational Training from July to November in Edmonton. He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He was called in May, 1941 and trained as Wireless Operator Air Gunner. He went overseas in May, 1942. He returned from overseas in June, 1943 with a back injury. From October, 1943, to March, 1944, he was hospitalized in the Veterans' Hospital in Edmonton. He returned to the farm to convalesce. He worked on the farm and in sawmills until August, 1945.

Then he took employment with the Provincial Government of Alberta in the Kings Printers Department. At present he is still employed with the Department of Public Works Supply and Services Purchasing Division as Senior Purchasing Officer.



1949 - Mazeppa Brothers

(L—R) Steve, John and Mike, with D-4 Cat, Oliver "80" tractor, Oliver "99" tractor, 1948 Chev 1-Ton truck and 1930 Chev Sedan.

John Mazeppa

John was born to Tom and Mary Mazeppa, the first of identical twins, on October 27, 1920 (twin to Steve). He married Lorraine Lentz on June 18th, 1966. They have no children.

In his early school years, like most farm children, John would help with farm chores before and after school. He attended school in Evansburg. In order to supplement the farm income in the depression years, Mazeppas would sell milk to the villagers in Evansburg and it was a common sight to see John, his twin brother, Steve, or Mike delivering milk. The twins looked so much alike that most people could not tell them apart, which resulted in them being called "Stevie-Johnnie." To this day they still are mistaken for one another. The boys were very resourceful and to make their chores of delivering milk a little easier and fun, they trained their dog, "Buster", to pull a small sleigh on which they put the milk. They later did so with a horse and two-wheel cart and in winter they used a horse drawn cutter. John also delivered the Calgary Albertan and Edmonton Journal until he quit school and his paper route was then taken over by his twin brother Steve.

Like his brother Mike, John quit school in his mid-teens to work on the farm. This eventually resulted in Mike and John working in partnership. In the winter months John also worked in lumber camps. From 1942 to 1951 Mike and John owned and operated a saw mill. John worked in all areas of operating a sawmill but his primary duty was that of sawyer. From 1953 to 1965 Mike and John had a dairy herd and from 1961 to 1965 (four terms) they owned and operated a school bus. They sold this bus in 1965 and are now mainly in the business of raising beef cattle and some grain.

John was born and lived on his father's homestead quarter until October of 1978 when he and his wife moved to the quarter section formerly owned by Andrew Kuchka.

John is a volunteer fireman and has been with the



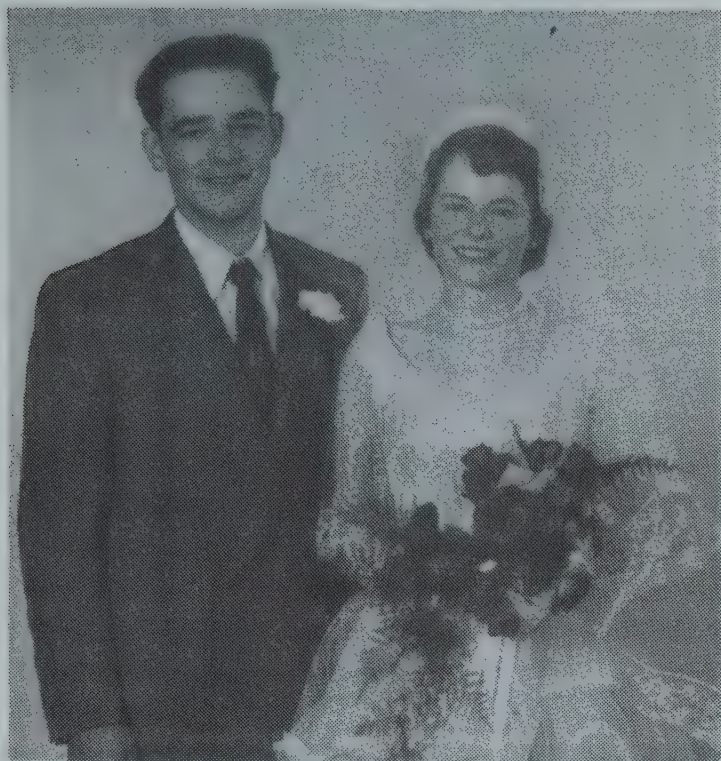
Mr. and Mrs. John Mazeppa

Evansburg Fire Department for approximately twenty-three years. He also served for a term as president of the Evansburg Local of Unifarm.

Dan and Mavis Mazeppa

Dan is the youngest of seven children born to Mary and Tom Mazeppa. He arrived on October 15, 1930 in the midst of a very heavy snowstorm. Dr. Chisholm attended. He was born on the family farm in a house that still stands there and was a birthday present for his sister Lillian (Carlson). Dan grew up and was educated in Evansburg. He was paper carrier for the Edmonton Journal and Edmonton Bulletin during his school days. He and his best friend, Tom Pajak, were often seen together hunting rabbits and birds. He worked with his family in their farming operation and sawmill. In the off-season, he worked on road construction, the pipeline (Trans Mountain), and the Pembina oilfields.

In 1954, June 25th, Dan married Mavis Wigley whose parents lived at Hattonford, near Niton, some thirty miles west. They met in 1950 while Mavis was attending high school at Evansburg. Following their marriage, they made their home in Edmonton. Dan had always dreamed of becoming



Dan and Mavis Mazeppa.

a pilot (even though at the age of fifteen years when he tried to enlist in the Air Force he was told to go home and “get dry behind the ears”). He took his Private Pilot’s training at the Edmonton Flying Club. He earned his license and was seen several times in the skies over Evansburg. Dan’s dream was shattered when he spent several years recuperating from an unfortunate industrial accident.

Dan’s interest in the printing trade was stimulated by Mavis’ cousin, Lovel Cole, who had come to Edmonton to work at Hamly Press. Dan worked for a short time at the Lancaster Park Supply Depot (RCAF) and the Federal Government Printing Department, before joining Lovel at Hamly Press to apprentice as a lithographer. Several years later Hamly Press ceased operation and Dan was the last man to leave the pressroom (December 1964). The market by then was flooded with experienced lithographers so the decision was made to move to Calgary. Dan went ahead and was just about to sell their home when the University of Alberta offered him a position in their printing department. The University of Alberta Printing Department was very small at that time. The building was located between two very large ones on campus, but it was there Dan introduced the University to four-color process offset lithography. Dan, in a very short

time, rose to the management level and remained there until 1980 when he crossed the river and became Manager at the Provincial Government Printing Department (Queen’s Printer) where he remains today.

Dan and Mavis live in southwest Edmonton and enjoy collecting antiques, travelling, gardening and the outdoors. Mavis has pursued a successful secretarial career. Dan is a Past President of the Edmonton Snowmobile Club, Mavis is Past Secretary. Dan is a founding member of the Edmonton Car Club, having collected a 1926 Model T Ford and a 1931 Chevrolet five window coupe. He participated in several car derbies to Hinton. In 1969 he introduced his nephews Allan and Ken to the sport of snowmobiling.

“You can take the boy from the country, but you can’t take the country from the boy”, and Dan and Mavis plan to spend their retiring years on his property at Evansburg.

The W. J. Keen Family

by Eunice (Keen) Neighbor

My father, William Jordon Keen, was born in London, England, in 1871. He came to Canada in 1899, to the Edmonton area where he farmed. In the early spring of 1903, he sent to London for his sweetheart, Margaret Thompson, to join him. They were married in Edmonton on April 4, 1903. While living in Edmonton, a daughter, Louise, was born in May, 1904, daughter Marjorie was born in 1906, and son John was born in 1908.

When John was a baby, the family moved by team and wagons to the Entwistle area. My father forded the Pembina River about one mile upstream from the Entwistle Cemetery. On the west side of the river and along side of the Foley - Stewart Freight Road, he built a long, log house with living quarters, barn, and bunk house under the same roof. My father had thoughts of making a living from a freighter’s stopping house. However, he was a bit late - in 1909 the railroad reached the Pembina River and by 1910 the high level railroad bridge was built. The railroad went on west, passing north of



Keen Homestead on Pembina River.



Mr. and Mrs. Keen and family on Pembina River, 1912.

my father's place. My father did get employment building the bridge.

My father then homesteaded a piece of land further up the Pembina on a small flat close to the river. Here he, and several helpers, built a big log house, and the family moved into it sometime in 1910. Although the construction of the house appeared to be well done, none of the spruce logs were peeled. I can remember listening to the wood beetles crunch-crunching, and Mother mumbling as she swept up bug-chewed sawdust from around the base of the walls. She finally washed many "gunny-sacks" and wainscotted the walls, which not only helped with the sawdust problem but also enhanced the appearance of the room.

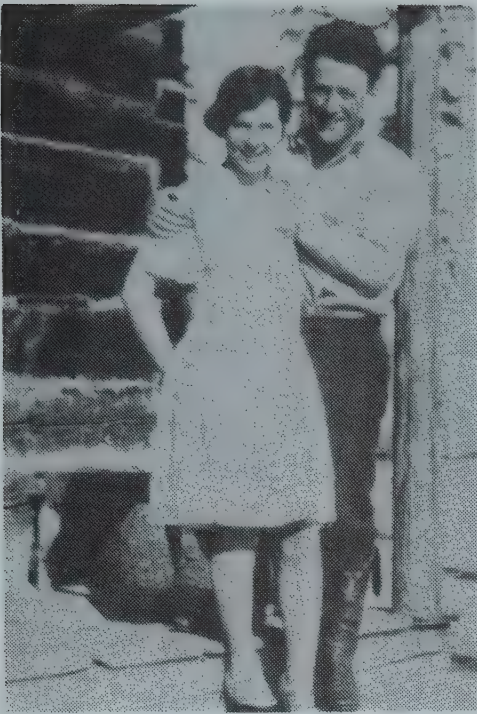
In November of 1911 a son, Dennis, was born, and in April of 1914, I was born. My father was the only one attending these births. Sometime after my birth, my father went to work in the newly founded coal mine, which, I believe, was the start of the hamlet of Evansburg. By the time I was of school age, Dad was Municipal Secretary with an office in what was then called Arnupville. He kept this job for many years.

Apparently I was a sickly child, and from the time I was six to eleven years old, I managed to crowd in several serious illnesses. The excellent Dr. Elliot finally told my parents I had to be hospitalized, which seemed to be the final "straw that broke the camel's back", and in 1924 my parents split up. At this time Louise, Marjorie and John were all gone from our home.

My sister Louise became a school teacher. Her first school was in Rosevear. I'm not sure, but I think Rosevear has now disappeared. It was close to Peers. She married Lyle McIvor, from the Magnolia area, in 1922 or 23, and shortly after they moved to Kirkland, Washington. They had four sons and two daughters. Both Lyle and their oldest son, Lee, were in the Navy during World War Two. Louise has now been widowed for many years. All her children are married. One son died in 1978. At present Louise still lives in Kirkland. She is seventy-six years old, lives by herself, and is in good health.

My sister Marjorie became a nurse, and an excellent one. She was always in demand, and made nursing her lifetime profession. She married Phillip Thomas from Brownvale, Alberta, in the late thirties. They moved to Vancouver Island, where Phil farms in the Royal Oak area. Marjorie nursed wherever she was, in her own home or in a local hospital. She and Phil had three sons, David, Dennis and Douglas, and one daughter, Deryl. Marjorie died in 1961. She is buried in Victoria.

My brother John graduated with honors from Evansburg High School when he was sixteen. He and Hersch Neighbor were good friends. John spent a lot of time with him and the people of the Reno



Eunice Keen and Hersch Neighbor

District. Hersch taught John a lot of bush lore, and the two often hunted together. John also lived with him in the small shack he had on his homestead, which was S.E. 1-52-8-W5. The shack was not very big but it contained all the necessities for batching - a bed, a heater, a cookstove, two or three chairs, and a table that was constructed of a boarded shelf held to the wall with a pair of hinges, the board being held upright by one wooden prop from underneath.

One evening in winter, after the two young men had been hunting, Hersch was relaxing with a book, and John was sitting on the bed cleaning his rifle. The room was lit with the soft light from a coal oil lamp, and all was quiet. John couldn't resist the temptation, and pointing the rifle into the floor, he fired a shot. Instantly the light blew out. Hersch was so startled he upset his chair. Thinking that John had been careless after all the teaching he had given him, he swore and started after him with wild threats of wringing his neck. In the dark shack a chase commenced, John running and laughing, Hersch hot after him and swearing, both of them in sock feet. There was a crash of dishes and cans as one of them bumped the leg support out from under the table. Jam and syrup and so-forth spilled onto the floor but the chase continued, around the room, into the jam and syrup, up, over the bed, un-

til finally Johnny hollered "I give up. Light the lamp." Before Hersch could sock him one, Johnny said "It wasn't an accident, I did it on purpose just to see what would happen." The mess they surveyed was enough to sober them down, dishes and pans all over, jam and syrup tracked completely around the room and up over the bed and blankets. After a lot of laughter, they had to clean the mess up.

John worked for a year or so for Ed Neighbor's truck service in Jasper. He had met Eleanor Magee in the Reno District. They were married in October, 1930, and moved to Pouce Coupe, Dawson Creek area, at the start of the building of the Alaska Highway, in 1942. In the many years they lived in the north, John owned the Hart Hotel in Pouce Coupe, had the first bus that travelled the Hart Highway to Prince George, was in the garage business, had a freight truck or two, and finally was manager of Northern Freightway's Dawson Creek Office. They had one son, Robert, who went into big construction, and became president of vast Keen Industries. As far as I know, he is the only millionaire in the Keen family. Bob divides his headquarters between Fort Nelson and Kelowna, B.C.

Brother Dennis married Katherine Nallis in Jasper in the spring of 1930. For quite a few years they lived in Jasper. Dennis worked for Ed Neighbor. Then he operated a gas and service station. He was in World War Two, and returned as a captain. He managed the fire hall and trucks in Jasper for several years. Later they moved to southern B.C. For many years he managed the ferry lines from Vancouver to Swartz Bay. He is now retired and lives in Sidney. They have two sons, Ralph and Ray. Ralph made the army his career and retired as Lieutenant-Colonel. He and his wife Mary live in Chilliwack. Ray, a scientist, was a manager in Tel-Stat at Duncan for several years. He now spends a lot of time in Saudi Arabia, for the Armed Forces. Daughter Sharon lives in Winnipeg, and is an archeologist and works for the Federal Government.

For Eunice's story see the Neighbor Family story.

The John Keen Story

by Eleanor Keen

John Keen was born in Edmonton, Alberta, on May 20, 1908, and moved with his parents to a homestead three miles south of Evansburg when he was about two years old. He attended school in Evansburg, walking the three miles to and from school with his older sisters, Louise and Marjorie. Sometimes the snow was so deep that the lunch pails dragged along the top. John always declared that was the reason he was so short, carrying those big lunch pails. When John left home, he went to Jasper to work for the Canadian National Railway, first as a wiper in the roundhouse and then as a fireman. He had advanced to one trip as a fireman when he was caught fighting in the roundhouse. This brought an end to his railroad career.

During the next few years, he worked in the summer and fall for Jasper "Outfitters", acting as a horse wrangler or guide. In the fall, after the trail trips were over, he returned to the Reno District to spend the winter with his friend, Hersch Neighbor, on his homestead. It was at this time that I met John Keen in the early spring of 1927 before he went back to work in Jasper. I had come from Ohaton, Alberta, to the new school district of Reno as a young, inexperienced teacher, (more about this later). We were married on October 15, 1930, and went to live in Jasper where John had a job driving the express truck for Ed Neighbor. In June, 1931, we moved to Entrance, Alberta, to work on the Davidson Ranch, John as general handyman around the place and myself as cook for the help. We were paid a combined wage of one hundred dollars a month, plus home and board. This was hard work but we were young and happy.

Our son Bob was born on March 19, 1933, in the Seton Hospital, Jasper, Alberta. We continued to work at the ranch until 1938 when we moved to Entwistle for John to go into the trucking business.

The first year that John was trucking he hauled lumber, railroad ties, and baled hay from west of Wildwood and lumber from Billy Robinson's mill at

Entwistle. Bob was a little fellow at the time and we lived in a small house on the John Lee homestead, about ten miles south of Evansburg. It was a very cold winter with lots of snow and the house was extremely cold, being just a clap-board shell with no insulation. However we had two stoves and John kept us well supplied with coal and wood. Even so the water pail froze over most nights. It was a lonely winter as John was away, sometimes for several days. Few people passed by, although the Hersch Neighbors and the Art Daveys lived nearby to the south. On nice days I sometimes hauled Bob on a hand sleigh to visit the neighbors. One evening, after dusk, there was a great commotion on the road just in front of our shack and I couldn't see what was going on. There was a rather steep hill on the road and the snow was deep. The Mazeppas were hauling a steam threshing rig up the hill with horses. The yelling and shouting was enough to make anyone nervous, to say nothing of the horses. Not knowing the Mazeppas I was very uneasy. They were friends of John so he found it quite amusing.

In the spring we moved into the village of Entwistle and rented the Fred Knight house which was owned by Jack Read, Sr. In the winter this house also took a lot of coal to keep it warm, and John mentioned this to Jack. He said "Oh, all rented houses are cold." But he was quite willing to supply the rough lumber to lay a floor in the attic. John then put a thick layer of shavings on top of the boards. This made a big difference. For this neat little two-bedroom house with a furnace in the basement and a pump at the back door we paid eight dollars a month. Most people had to carry their water from the town pump.

John Keen and Johnny McKelvie then decided to go into freighting in opposition to Norman Hanson of Entwistle and George Young of Evansburg, hauling stock into Edmonton and supplies etc. back. Johnny McKelvie soon found better things to do and John Keen continued on his own. One of his first trips into Edmonton consisted of hauling a cow which sold for barely enough to pay the freight charges. On the return trip he had a plow for one of

the machine agencies. It took a while, with lots of hard work and late hours picking up cattle, pigs, etc. in the rain and the mud, but John managed to build up the business and buy a second truck before moving north to haul perishables up the Alaska Highway, then under construction.

During the war it was hard to keep drivers, as the boys were all enlisting in the services. That was why John decided to take his truck north in January, 1943. When the hauling up the Highway petered out, we bought the Hart Hotel in Pouce Coupe, B.C. After a couple of years in the hotel business we sold out and John bought a large second-hand bus, and started the first bus line on the Hart Highway toward Prince George, B.C. He had the buses painted orange and white and so named his new business "Orange Coach Lines", based in Dawson Creek, B.C. As long as the highway was under construction, business was good and John soon bought a new smaller bus. He sent for Jimmie Muldoon of Evansburg to come and drive for him. When the highway was completed and the camps closed down, John sold his buses. Jimmie married my niece, Dorothy Magee.

After many years of driving trucks, buses, etc. John decided that he would work for someone else and have more regular hours. He was hired by Northern Freightways, a subsidiary of Consolidated Freight Lines in the United States, as driver supervisor in Dawson Creek. From that, he became General Manager of Northern Freightways for northern Alberta and British Columbia. He was then promoted to the position of Director of Transportation for Canadian Freightways and we were based in Calgary, Alberta. There was a lot of travelling and heavy responsibility in connection with John's job and his health began to fail. We moved back to Dawson Creek, where we lived until John had a series of strokes. As I had no relatives in the North, I moved John to Bethany Hospital in Camrose, Alberta, where he has been for over eight years - 1973 to 1981, paralyzed on the right side and unable to talk. He keeps well and is still an interesting person to know. Last year Tommy Young, a school pal from Evansburg, presented John with an honorary



John Keen and Eleanor Magee.



John Keen's first heated Van built in Entwistle to haul freight from Edmonton west and on Alaska Highway.

life membership on behalf of the Jasper Park Masonic Lodge.

Our son, Robert J. Keen, started school in Entwistle with Mrs. MacNutt as his teacher. Bob always loved animals and decided when he was a little fellow that he was going to be a farmer. However, when he was in high school in Camrose, Alberta, the big cats started work building the highway through town and Bob spent every spare minute among the workers. The foreman allowed him to operate a cat whenever possible and in this way he learned the trade. From then on everything

was heavy construction. He drove trucks up the Alaska Highway until he had enough money to buy his first cat. As time went on, Bob had a hand in the development of roads, railroad beds, oil drilling, charter air flights, etc. in northern British Columbia and the Territories. His companies were known as Keen Industries. His slogan was "Key to the North." His dream was still to have a ranch and work with horses. He and a partner have a hunting area at Scoop Lake, in northern British Columbia. He raises horses on his ranch four miles north of Fort Nelson. Bob has travelled to many parts of the world, and has had hunting trips to Africa, Germany and Northern Canada. His hotel at Fort Nelson has many fine trophies on display.

Frederick L. Elsie

by C. H. Macphee

Frederick L. Elsie migrated from Ingersoll, Ontario, to Edmonton in the early nineteen hundreds, possibly around 1906 or 1907. He was employed by the Hudson Bay Company. It was from there that he joined in partnership with C. J. Macphee and R. D. Bruce. They followed the building of the trans-continental railways west of Edmonton. He followed C. J. Macphee who had started their first store at Entwistle in April, 1908. The partnership continued with their main store at Evansburg until around 1928 when he sold out his interest to his partners and took over the operation of the Post Office and Drug Store at Evansburg. He was later involved in the hotel business at Evansburg. He took an active part in the management of sports at Evansburg and managed both hockey and baseball teams. Staging of tournaments in both these sports was his specialty. He quite often imported players from Edmonton to bolster his teams, all unknown to their opponents. He was also known to referee or umpire some games. He was well known in the area and very popular with all.

Around 1935 he sold out his interests and moved to Ontario. He resided in London, Ontario, until his death in the late nineteen sixties.

Mrs. Elsie was well known for her hospitality and culinary ability. She was an extremely gracious lady.



Mr. and Mrs. Elsie and Monty.



Fred Elsie.

She predeceased her husband by several years, shortly after their return to Ontario.

Their two sons, Harold and Monte, both served in the armed forces during World War II, Harold with the army and Monte in the R.C.A.F. Harold was overseas with the Army Service Corps and upon discharge he took up residence in Vancouver, where he was engaged in the import and resale business. He passed away in the late nineteen seventies. Monte took part in the first one-thousand-plane-raid on Germany, acting as rear gunner. He returned to Canada and acted as a gunnery instructor until his discharge. He was employed with Atlas Engineering and Machine Co. Ltd. until his death in January, 1982, in Toronto.

C. J. Macphee

by C. H. (Bud) Macphee

Charles Joseph Macphee was born in Lancaster, County of Glengarry, Ontario, October 8, 1881, and received his education in that area. He started his work life as a clerk in a general store in Lancaster and later in Alexandria, Ontario. At that time stories were brought back to Ontario of the opportunities that existed in the West, and in 1905 he left Ontario and arrived in Edmonton, where he was employed by the Hudson Bay Company in their main store.

During this period of time the Grand Trunk Pacific Railroad and the Canadian Northern Railroad were being constructed west of Edmonton and my father considered this to be an opportune time to start his own career. He formed a partnership with two fellow Ontarians, R. D. Bruce and F. L. Elsie, with the idea of starting a general store to be located in the construction area of the two railroads. On Friday, April 13, 1908, my father arrived on the banks of the Pembina River at Entwistle, after a tiresome and tortuous trip by oxen team over a wagon trail that passed via Lac St. Anne. The morning after his arrival, a tent was set up and the wagon load of goods stacked in the store tent. My father and his partners were in business under the name of "The Elsie Bruce Macphee Company, General Merchants". Business boomed and the following month Fred Elsie arrived at Entwistle, to be followed by Bob Bruce. The tent served as their business location until the following spring, when a frame store was constructed.

There were large construction crews busily engaged in the building of the steel bridge on the Grand Trunk Pacific railway and the wooden trestle approach and steel bridge being built by the Canadian Northern, further down the river. With the rail construction proceeding west of the Pembina River, it was decided to build more stores, following the crews as they moved. Some of these stores were of frame construction, but the majority consisted of a tent, stretched over a wooden frame, and contained mostly hardware, working clothes and tobacco supplies. At one time these stores stretched



The first framed store at Entwistle, 1909.

all the way to within a few miles of Prince George, B.C. I can recall my father telling of the many times he took a string of packhorses packed with supplies and having to ford the McLeod River at or near Wolf Creek. He told of many difficulties he encountered with horses throwing their packs and his having to rescue them from the river.

Besides being in the store business my father became involved in the operation of a sawmill on the river south of the townsite. One of his partners was a man called Hislop, a son-in-law of the Honourable Frank Oliver, and who later became a doctor in Edmonton. A stone quarry was also started, in which my father had an interest. He was also on one of the early school boards at Entwistle.

The store at Entwistle was totally destroyed by fire in 1918 and as the coal mine had started at Evansburg it was decided to build the new store across the river at the new townsite. By this time settlers were flocking into the area and this together with a flourishing mine industry made for boom times.

The miners were from Great Britain and the Maritimes, and later on were joined by Japanese workers, all of which added to quite a cosmopolitan population. The store operation continued as a

three-way partnership until around 1928, when Fred Elsie acquired the drug store and his share of the business was bought out. The store then operated under the name of Bruce & Macphee. My father and his partner managed to survive through the depression years with the store, although at times it was only through the good name they had acquired with the various wholesale houses. Bob Bruce retired to Vancouver Island in the early nineteen forties and my father then became the sole owner. He operated the store until the late nineteen-fifties, when he sold out and retired with my mother to Brantford, Ontario. He passed away in July, 1963, and is buried at Brantford.

Mrs. C. J. (Minnie) Macphee

After a courtship that started in Ontario prior to my father leaving for the West, my mother and father were married in Calgary's St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church on July 4, 1911.

My mother was of United Loyalist stock and her father was a rather affluent individual in the town of Maxville, Ontario. It was therefore somewhat of a shock to her when she saw the living and social conditions that existed when she arrived at her new home in Entwistle. It was a brawling, boisterous frontier village, peopled mostly with individuals engaged in the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Canadian Northern railways. The types of people used by the various contractors, were not what you might call the most civilized persons in the world. These people together with the assortment of camp followers that invariably followed the westward march of the steel, were hardly conducive to a well ordered community.

One story that I remember my mother relating, concerned a dog that my father had obtained more or less for protection. This animal was pure bred English bulldog, pure white in colour, weighing some eighty pounds and answering to the name of Glenn, which had been abbreviated from Glengarry. On this occasion it was a Saturday night and my mother was preparing to get ready to attend a dance and awaiting the arrival of my father. My mother was in one of the rooms of the house when she

heard the back door open and she called my father's name and stepped out into the front room. Instead of my father, it was a drunken laborer who had entered the house. As she backed away in utter fright, there was one roar from the dog and in a flash he charged through the air and seized the intruder by the throat. It took the combined efforts of my father and the R.N.W.M.P. Constable to persuade the dog to release his hold.

This dog also contributed to a good deal of extra work for my mother by his habit of slaughtering the snowshoe rabbits that in certain years infested the area in great numbers. My mother was forced to collect and stack all those rabbit carcasses before they became a health hazard. Glengarry was eventually killed by a train in the narrow cut that runs just west of the old overpass at Entwistle.

The social life in such a frontier village was by necessity of a somewhat limited nature. With the outbreak of World War I and the influx of settlers, a more diversified community emerged. A chapter of the Womens' Institute was formed and their activity in promoting dances and box socials added to the social life of the community.

Dances were held at the community dance hall, organized by various groups. All sport days and baseball tournaments, usually culminated in a dance. Food was supplied by the women of the district and coffee was prepared in a large clothes boiler, heated over the stove in one of the cloak rooms and served in big pitchers, by those people who had organized the dance. As a boy I can recall carrying boxes of cakes and sandwiches, prepared by my mother, up to the town hall prior to the start of the dance.

All the modern conveniences and other amenities, that we take so much for granted, were not even in existence in the early days of our parents. This was especially true in the rural areas. Homes were heated by coal or wood heaters and the main room in any house was the kitchen which was dominated by a large coal-fired stove, used for heating and cooking. This stove, with a polished steel top, large cooking oven and an attached tank called a reser-



Mrs. C. J. Macphee with dog, Glengarry in 1912.



**The Macphee Family
Pat, Mr. and Mrs. Macphee, Howard (Bud) and Betty.**

voir, for warm water, was the centre around which the pioneer women operated the house. All meals were prepared from this stove and on wash day I can remember my mother bringing in the large copper boiler and heating water for the weekly wash. Water was usually supplied from the rain barrels or hauled from the town pump. In the winter snow was melted and used. Washing was done by hand on a wooden washboard in galvanized tubs and clothes were wrung dry by forcing them through hand operated wringers. Those items too large for the wringer, were wrung out by hand. One only had to look at the hands of these women and under-

stand the labors they performed. I can still see my mother bringing the clothes from outside in forty degrees below zero weather and stacking them over clothes horses to dry. The ironing was done with irons heated on the kitchen stove, each one being returned to the stove for reheating for the ironing was continuous. Eventually these irons were replaced by a gasoline heated one, which required to be continually filled and pumped up. The first washer operated by a gasoline engine made its appearance at Entwistle when the family of M. J. "Mac" Sullivan arrived from Saskatchewan in the early thirties. Mrs. Sullivan was kind enough to loan this machine to her neighbors and I can still hear the sound of its motor, as it echoed all over town. Electric power was not available at Entwistle and most lighting was done with the use of kerosene or gasoline lamps, all of which required constant filling and cleaning and trimming.

My mother was active in the Women's Institute and although not of the Catholic faith, was also a member of the Catholic Women's League and for many years played the organ at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church at Entwistle. In 1934 my father bought the home of his former partner, Fred Elsie, at Evansburg and the family moved across the river to live. The new residence was somewhat larger than the old one at Entwistle but it still did not have any modern conveniences outside of electric power.

It was an accepted fact that the wives and mothers of those earlier days were all exceptional cooks. When one looks back at the facilities that were available to these pioneer women, it can only be described as amazing the many varieties and the excellence of the food that was prepared by them. I can still recall my mother's wonderful cooking ability and the pleasure it was to walk into the kitchen after being outside all day and to be able to enjoy the wonderful aroma of fresh baking that permeated the house. This was especially true during the Christmas and New Year's seasons, when it seemed that each household was a storehouse of culinary delights.

During the mid 1930's and at the height of the Great Depression, the Federal Government

established camps for single men across Canada and one was placed on the Pembina river just slightly north of the highway bridge. The men from this camp were always warmly welcomed at our house. My mother always had lunches ready for them. She would sit down at the piano and play the popular songs of the day as well as many nostalgic ones and everyone would join in the singing. It was such evenings as this, that my mother enjoyed so much.

Gardening was another of my mother's great interests and she always managed to maintain a wonderful flower and vegetable garden that was a joy to behold. It was the somewhat simple things, such as this that my mother enjoyed the most. In common with other wives and mothers, they did possibly contribute the most among the early pioneers of the district.

In the late 1950's my mother and father decided to leave their home of many years and to relocate in Ontario. This was due mostly to the severe arthritis attacks my mother suffered from for many years. It was thought a less severe climate might be more beneficial to her. They moved to Brantford, Ontario, as my sister Pat and her family were located there. She survived my father's death in 1963 and finally passed to her rest in December 1979 and is buried beside my father at Brantford.

The Descendants of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Macphee

by "Bud" Macphee

Charles H. "Bud" Macphee was born in Montreal, Quebec, on December 21, 1915. He attended public school at Entwistle and high school at Evansburg, Alberta. He was married in 1935 to Mary Evelyn Schmid who had taught for a few years in Evansburg. They moved to Edmonton the same year. He worked at various jobs, including work on the construction of the Miette Hot Springs Pool at Jasper Park in 1936. Following this work, he joined the staff of the Great West Life Assurance Company. He was later employed by the Department of Municipal Affairs until his enlistment in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1941. Following his discharge in 1946, he rejoined the government ser-

vice. He was with the Department of Public Works until he joined the Canadian Pacific Railways, in the Telegraph Department. In 1956 he transferred to the Northern Alberta Railways and retired as Revenue Accountant with that company in December, 1980.

Mrs. Evelyn Macphee taught school for the Edmonton Separate School Board during the war years of World War II. Later she was employed by T. Eaton Company for a number of years, as well as by other commercial establishments, until her retirement from the work force in 1978.

Their three daughters all attended school in Edmonton. Jean graduated from the Misericordia Hospital as a registered nurse, and after her marriage to Dr. Harold Mayer, they moved to the United States. They are presently located in Tacoma, Washington. Jean's family of three, Marianne, Robert and Michael, are located in Tacoma. Marianne graduated in 1981 from Washington University with honours in Medical Science. Robert is presently attending the same university and Michael is attending Washington State University.

Maureen graduated from high school and later married Thomas McGee. Their four children are all living in Edmonton. Patrick is engaged in the construction business. Barry is a representative for a chemical company and the remaining two, Kathryn and James, are still attending school.

Betty Anne, the youngest of their three daughters, graduated from high school in Edmonton. She was employed by various firms in the city until she became a victim of multiple sclerosis. She has suffered with this disease for the past fifteen years and is at present confined to a wheel chair. Despite this, she still maintains her own apartment and carries on with a cheerful outlook on life.

Elizabeth "Betty" Macphee was born in Edmonton in January, 1914, and attended school at Entwistle and Evansburg. After obtaining her teacher's certificate from the Edmonton Normal School, she taught the primary grades at Evansburg. She was



(Standing) Dr. Chisholm, ? , ? , Mrs. Bruce, Bill Barwise, Bud Macphee, Charles Macphee, ? , Father Sullivan, Harold Anderson, Mrs. MacNutt, Tom Read, Mrs. Tommy Thompson, Mrs. C. Macphee. (Sitting) Mrs. Bud Macphee, Bud's daughter, Ruth Bell, ? , Pat Macphee, Archie Greenaway, Betty Macphee, ? , Mrs. Chisholm, Mrs. Tom Read.

married in July, 1941, to A. G. Greenaway, who was training with the R.C.A.F. Following her husband's return from overseas in 1945, they took up residence in Toronto. Her husband graduated in law and practised there until his retirement. At present they reside in Willowdale, Ontario. They have two children, Elizabeth Gaylord, who is married to Ross Barnett, and Robert Charles who is employed with Canadian Pacific Air.

Dorothy Rhoda Patricia "Pat" Macphee was born in Edmonton in 1917. Following schooling at Entwistle and Evansburg, she graduated from the Vegreville General Hospital with her degree in nursing. Following service with the Canadian Red Cross and the Royal Canadian Navy, she married Dr. Russell Telfer. At present they reside in Brantford, Ontario, where her husband practices. She has been active in charitable and professional societies, as well as in the political field. They have two sons, Brant and Gary. Brant is at present articling with a firm of chartered accountants and Gary is attending university in Nova Scotia.

The Barrett Family

by James Barret and Agnes MacIntosh

The Anthony Barrett family moved to Evansburg from Michel, B.C. in 1909. They came by railroad

to Edmonton to file on a homestead, NW-18-53-7-W5. They came by horse and wagon to Entwistle. The roads were so muddy that the wheels sank right down to the axles. Everyone had to get off the wagon while the men dug out the wheels, then they went on their way again.

There was no bridge at that time so they had to ford the Pembina River to get to Evansburg.

The homestead was covered with heavy bush. Before they could build a log house, they lived in a tent.

After much hard work, first with oxen and later with horses, they managed to clear forty five acres for crops and a garden. They fenced this land with a zig zag fence made of logs. Eventually they had cows, pigs and chickens and used a plow, harrow, mower and rake for farming.

For water they had to dig a well sixty six feet deep through hard clay, rock and sandstone. They used dynamite to blast a hole through the last rock formation. Then the water, pure and wholesome, flowed freely. This water was shared with a neighbor until they had their own well.

There were seven children in the family; Sabina, Agnes, Jim, Winnie, Margaret and John (one child



Sabina (Holding Baby) Lily Young, Agnes Barrett, Joe Young, Isabel Young, Bob Young, and younger Barretts.

died in infancy). The three older children went to school in Entwistle after the bridge was built, walking three miles each way. Later school was held in Evansburg in a coal mine company house.

Their nearest neighbours were the Mazeppas who lived one mile away.

In those early days there were lots of wild rabbits. Agnes and her sister Sabina used to catch the babies and pet them, then let them run back to their mother. The rabbits had no fear of man. There were also many partridges. The family picked many pails of wild blueberries, raspberries and strawberries.

Mr. Barrett was a miner and worked in the Evansburg mine. When the war started, Mr. Barrett joined the service. He was killed in 1918 at Vimy Ridge, just before the war ended.

Mrs. Barrett sold the farm and she and her seven children moved to Edmonton and later to B.C. She passed away in 1951 and is buried in North Vancouver.

Agnes married Bud MacIntosh and they have seven children. They have seventeen grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

James is unmarried and lives in his own house in Vancouver.



Barrett family home.



Anthony Barrett, great hunter.



Sergeant Anthony Barrett and family, 1916.



Winifred, Margaret and John Barrett.



(L—R) Eva Young, Dorothy Birt, Jessie MacDiarmid, Isabel Young, Edna Pallaster, Edna Birt, Gretchen Harmer, Iva Olson, Agnes Barrett, Sabina Barrett.

Peter and Mary Janeszewski

by Jennie Harris

The history of the Janeszewski family dates back to the countries of Austria and Poland from where this family immigrated to Canada before World War One.

First to arrive was the father, Peter Senior, in 1907. He landed in Halifax and from there began his journey westward where he had heard that new land was being made available and opportunities existed.

He worked for a time at road construction or whatever job was available. Because he did not speak English, job prospects weren't the best.

Peter continued westward to the end of the railway at Entwistle. From there he searched for a homestead. Since roads as yet were non-existent, he hoped to find a spot not too far from the railway. The bush trails made it rather difficult to transport essentials.

Soon he claimed a homestead NE 12-53-8-5 which was west and south of Entwistle, or south and west of Evansburg toward the Reno district. This farm is still the property of the Janeszewskis. Today Tony and Anita Janeszewski live there with their two young sons, Paul and David.

In 1910, Peter was joined by his second son, Joe, and two years later by the oldest son, Stanley. These three members worked hard to earn money and build a home to prepare for the arrival of the remainder of the family.

In 1913, Mary, Peter's wife, and the remaining five members arrived. They now were a complete family.

It was not easy to adjust to life in a new country, especially in such wilderness. The little log house was cosy but very crowded. Fortunately, the younger members had sufficient knowledge of English to help them soon make friends and to be



Peter and Mary Janiszewski.



The Janiszewski Family
Joe, Paulina, Stanley, Olesha, Peter Jr., Annie

“absorbed” into the district.

This family remained a very close family and passed on their concern for one another to their children and grandchildren.

One member of the family, Louis, sought adventure further westward. Unfortunately, the family lost contact with him.

The nearest store from the homestead was at least five miles away, although through short-cut trails it could have been closer. Nevertheless, it was a long trip on foot across the Pembina River railway bridge for supplies. At first the bridge had no rails.

The journey to “town” was made somewhat enjoyable by stops at the neighbors. The Mazeppa family lived just south of the railway trestle. Frequently visits were exchanged with these new friends. Soon the Bob Young family moved onto the next quarter south. They had several children, some of whom became very dear friends over the years.

The three younger Janeszewski children, Peter, Annie and Louis, took some of their schooling in this area. Annie and Peter were interested in music and soon met Miss Laschinsky, who very capably

taught them to play the violin.

Members of the family increased. Last summer 1981, a family reunion was held at the Easyford Park. At that time a total of one hundred-thirty of two hundred-eighty relatives attended.

Stanley Janeszewski

by Jennie Harris

This is the story of one family who came to this district, maintained a home, raised their family and helped to develop the area.

Stanley sought employment with the railway. This, however, took him into the interior of British Columbia, and as his parents were getting on in years, he felt that he should live closer to them. As a result, he purchased the quarter just north of the original homestead S E 13-53-8. There he built a ‘spacious’ two-story home to which came other family members to live until they were able to establish their own place.

Stanley frequently spoke to newcomers who arrived from the “Old Country” searching for land and employment. He was happy to have them live with him for awhile and help him clear some land in return.



Stanley and Annie Janiszewski Family - (L—R) Mary, Chesel, Sophie, Annie, Jenny, Thomas.

Stanley married Annie Korkush from Smoky Lake in January 1923. They raised five children, Tom and Chesel who still live on the home place, Sophie (Macyk) in Edmonton, Jenny (Harris) in Drayton Valley, and Mary (Ciesla) in Onoway. Annie still lives on the farm.

Farming did not provide a secure living. Many of the early settlers in this district found some relief from unemployment when the Evansburg mine began its operation. Mine props were cut and sold to the Company. Work was available in the mine for a few years.

To help pay farm taxes, the farmers would donate several days of work on the building and upkeep of roads. Much hard work by men and horses built culverts and bridges as well as maintaining the road. A rain storm or spring break-up usually meant extremely poor travel any way but on foot.

All was not gloom during these days though. Neighbours frequently exchanged visits, especially on Sundays when everyone seemed to observe a day of rest. Stanley's sister, Annie, and later her husband, Henry Dewald, played the violin for entertainment and dancing. Later, Henry's family played for dances with Stanley frequently at the drums which he enjoyed playing very much.

Another social function was card playing, especially the game Norwegian Whist, which always took on an air of utmost seriousness.

Stanley was a member of the July Twelfth Social Credit Organization which held a picnic on the Evansburg School grounds every summer. For twenty-five cents one could have several hot dogs, pop and ice-cream.

The years soon passed and the senior Janeszewski's moved from their place (presently the farm of Tom Janeszewski) to a small house on Stanley's property. This move was very short. Mary became ill and passed away in 1937 before they could settle in the new home. Peter then lived with Stanley until his death in 1940. Both Peter and Mary are buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

Stanley retired from farming in 1960 but continued to live on the farm with Annie and sons Chesel and Tom. Illness overcame him and he passed away in 1968. He, too, is buried in Evansburg as is his younger brother Peter who passed away in 1980.

H.E. Smith and Family

The Time: April 1st, 1911

The Place: Entwistle

The People: Harry Smith (38), Wife - Rosa (37), Sister-in-law - Charlotte Arnup (50), Daughter - Gladys (2½)

The Smiths arrived from London, England to make a new life in a small village (after a huge city) and on a bush homestead (N.E. 18-53-7-W5) on the west side of the Pembina River. They joined A.W. Arnup, Rose's brother, who had come west in 1906, and became partners in a store under the name of the Wholesale Supply Association. At this time the Canadian Northern Railway was being built and Entwistle was a centre of distribution for the food and construction material needed for the enterprise. Due to an extremely bad winter (1913), the snow disappeared in January and the railroad ties and logs could not be brought out of the bush - consequently the store and other businesses failed.



Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. C. Couves (Charlie Couves and Gladys Smith), Mr. Couves, Phyllis Couves, Mrs. Couves, Gladys, Frank Couves, Charlie, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Smith, Minister, Elsie Couves.

Harry, who was what would be called today an accountant, was forced to take other work and for some years he was Secretary-Treasurer of the Village of Entwistle and for the Entwistle School District No. 1936. Because of the building of the railroad, there was a real-estate expansion with village lots being sold for unpaid taxes or reverting to the village.

With the outbreak of the 1914-18 War, Harry and Rose became involved with the patriotic society, the Red Cross, Rose with the Women's Institute and the Women's Auxiliary of the Anglican Church. St. Peter's Church in Entwistle was an excellent example of inter-faith cooperation, as people of all denominations actually built the church and all subsequently used it until other churches were built.

The Smiths took up permanent residence on the homestead within the first year of their arrival, but spent the winters in a house they built in Entwistle. There was the problem of a road in to the homestead, which is a story in itself. This was eventually worked out.

The homestead lies half a mile south of the Evansburg Cemetery, on the bank of the river; the Trans Mountain Pipeline cuts through the edge of it. The family could, and did, for years walk to Entwistle across the Grand Trunk bridge, and to Evansburg where a soft-coal mine was being developed - (coal

was sold as Pembina Peerless). The community was named after H.M.E. Evans of Edmonton at roughly the same time as Imrie, (later Styal) was named for J.M. Imrie, also of Edmonton. Harry worked in the mine during the early years and later. It was closed in 1936 for lack of orders and because of too high maintenance costs.

Across the Smith homestead from southeast to northwest ran the Foley Trail - a sixty foot wide strip of land, cleared of all stumps, which was the freighting road to the west before the railroad went through. From the east windows of the house, the Smiths could see the wagon trains setting out from Entwistle to come down to ford the river and follow the Foley Trail even as far as Edson. Sections of the old road could be seen in various places if one knew where to look. In the years from 1911, the Smith family has seen a road grow from a wagon trail to a divided highway and from horse and wagon to jet aircraft and into space.

The railroad bridge across the Pembina provided the short-cut between Entwistle and Evansburg and although "at one's own risk" (strictly illegal) was the recognized walking trail, possibly the coldest place on earth on a windy winter day. This bridge (1909) was followed in 1913, by the Canadian Northern bridge built just below the site of the present low-level bridge in the Provincial Park. The Canadian Northern Bridge and rails were removed in 1923, the station house was moved to the present location (the C.N. Station); and only the concrete piers of the bridge are left. Parts of the road bed were used to form the present Highway 16 West.

On their bush homestead, Harry cleared the land, mostly by hand. A log cabin was the first home. This was added to, and still later covered with siding over the original logs. The garden produced all kinds of vegetables and an abundance of flowers, even a small rose garden.

All their lives, the Smiths were involved in community and church activities; Harry was a warden of both St. Peters (Entwistle) and later St. Paul's (Evansburg). With two or three other families he

was instrumental in keeping the tiny, struggling church operating, no small task in the face of the economy of the late twenties and the depression of the thirties. Fred and Edith Elsie were of this devoted group and shared with Harry and Rose the ups and downs of the parish, financially and otherwise.

Harry and Rose were keen tennis players. In the early days they took part in keeping up and improving the tennis courts which were set up by the mine owners, who also provided water for the skating rink in the winter. Some early residents will remember the tennis tournaments and the hockey games played on the court-rink at the south end of the row of townsite houses.

During the years of the depression, the Smiths, like everyone else at the time, suffered from lack of employment, lack of markets for produce, low prices, and wages that would seem incredible now. (In some places teachers were paid four hundred - five hundred dollars a year, and clerks fifty dollars a month; hourly wages of twenty-five cents were common). Under these circumstances, Harry took on any work that was available to avoid going on relief.

The change of direction in the economy of the area came when the mine finally closed down in 1936 after several years of diminishing orders, deteriorating machinery, and underground conditions. It was the end of an era; houses from the "townsite" were sold and taken away - auxiliary industries were unnecessary - population shifted - and those who remained were dependent on the land itself. It was no longer a one-industry town.

Harry and Rose Smith saw the development of the present Highway 16 from Edmonton west to Jasper, beginning as a dirt road with every type of terrain to conquer, hills, swamp, sand, gumbo - it was all there. When the narrow layer of gravel crept out, first to Winterburn, then to Spruce Grove, Stony Plain, Carvel - it seemed almost too good to be true.

Harry was involved in entertainment in the area,

as he was for some time, the manager of the local community hall. The earliest hall was operated by the mine and was on part of the land that the dump covered first. It was the scene of the local dances, concerts, picture shows or whatever entertainment was offered. The later hall building, also sponsored by the mine, opened officially on New Years 1923. It was taken over by the community when the mine closed in 1936.

In 1938 the Smiths retired from their homestead and returned to live in Evansburg. With the start of World War II in 1939, wartime projects started again - Red Cross, fund raising, helping their family (see later).

Harry died in February, 1941, of a massive coronary attack. After the War, Rose and the family left Evansburg, living in Vermilion for six months and then in Edmonton after July, 1946. Rose was active in church affairs, first at St. Faith's on the north side, then at Holy Trinity in old Strathcona. She became involved in one of the early Senior Citizen's organizations, the Edmonton Friendship Clubs. She shared a home with her daughter's family until her death in 1953.

Charlotte Arnup

Charlotte Arnup lived with Rose and Harry on the homestead. She kept a small flock of chickens and did sewing, especially baby clothes, for non-sewers in the area. Because of a bronchial condition she did not go out very much; however her health improved a great deal in the clear, dry Alberta air. Until the time of her death, February, 1925, she was an ardent booster of the Canadian scene. She was also the closest thing to a grandmother that Gladys had, and over the years was "Auntie" to young people who came to the house.

Gladys Smith

Gladys spent her growing years in the house by the river bank with Marjorie Keen and her family, Winnie Barrett and her family, Isobel Young and her family as neighbors and playmates. All these



Mrs. H. Smith and Mrs. Couves.

children attended school in Entwistle as there was, at that time, no school in Evansburg (up to 1917). Everyone walked along the railroad track, across the bridge and through various bush trails home. Gladys had learned to read very young, and started school reading at Junior High School level, and at the Grade II level in arithmetic, a problem for any teacher. The family had bought a piano - (a story in itself) so she had begun music lessons at the age of four or so, with her cousin Cecilia (Dolly) Morris, of whom more later.

The Grade VIII departmental examination was the requirement for high school entrance - in fact it was called the "entrance exam" at times. The Spanish influenza epidemic had closed schools in the fall of 1918 for some weeks, so there had been controversy as to the fairness of writing the test. It was written.

The Entwistle pupils including Gladys went to Evansburg to high school. She eventually completed Grade XII and went on to Normal School at Camrose 1924-25, the youngest student there.

The next years were occupied with teaching - Mewassin, Royal Valley, Edson, Entwistle, Holly Springs, and Metropolitan - and all the various duties a teacher was supposed to perform in the

community. During this time she completed her degree work in piano for the Royal Conservatory of Toronto and the Royal Schools of Music in London, (England).

Radio broadcasting was beginning and Gladys had the privilege in late 1923 of doing two or three programs broadcast from the CJCA Studio in Edmonton Birks Building, and later in the early days of CKUA, the University station.

The Mitchells

Jack (Jock) Mitchell came to Canada from Scotland in 1912. The family, which consisted of Mrs. Mitchell, Margaret, Anne, Tom and Bob, followed in September, 1913. Tom was about four and a half years old, and Bob was about two years old at that time. Their first home was in a house in the northernmost row of houses. Jack was born in Evansburg in 1915.

The children started school in a building just south of Mrs. Christianson's house. Their first school teacher was Mrs. Furley. The other two-room school was built in 1918.

By 1918, Mr. Mitchell had built a big two-story house down on the flat by the Lobstick River (where Wades live now), and the family moved down in that year. In the earliest days, Mrs. Mitchell washed her clothes down by the river.

As their house was one of the largest, it was a place for the young people to congregate for parties. There were many young people in town then, and as there were no radios or TVs, they had to amuse themselves in other ways. They formed an "I go-You Go" Club. It was not a formal organization as such, but everyone was welcome and all contributed to the pleasure. They had skiing parties, skating parties, house parties, and masquerades.

The Mitchells had one of the first cars in Evansburg - a Saxon. The mine manager had a McLaughlin, Narrowways had a Briscoe, and Stricklands had a McLaughlin. Since there were no



Anne and Bob Mitchell.



Mitchell Home and Mitchell Family



Mrs. Mitchell washing clothes by the Lobstick.

roads to anywhere else, the boys in these families drove back and forth to the station, passing one another on the trail. This trail was the only street in town. It went from Elsie Bruce Store (Marcotte's) uptown to what is now 48th Avenue, then to the station road (48th Street) right up to the station where they would turn around and come back down. They could get to Entwistle by going down to the river and crossing by ferry and then up the steep hill on the other side.

The Elsie Bruce Co. had a gas pump put in front of their store. They didn't have a lock for the tank so they took the handle into the store every night. Over in Entwistle, the people with the gas pumps had a lock for their tank, so they left their handle out on the pump. After the Mitchell boys got their first car - an old Model T - they went to Entwistle, got the handle, came back and filled up in Evansburg, and then took the handle back to Entwistle. It was the only way to operate their car since they had no money to buy gas.

In 1922, the mine had been shut down for several months, and gases had collected in different areas causing a severe explosion to take place. Mr. Mitchell was in the explosion. He lived through it although he was badly injured. He had been going down to cut coal and was blown for quite a distance. A Greaves boy, only sixteen years old, and Emil Keen were killed.

During the 30s, they built a little store which was run by their son, Jack. Mr. Muldoon took over the store in the war years, and it was finally sold to Mr. Smillie.

Tom Mitchell married Thelma Hunter. They left Evansburg to work in the mine at Coleman in the late '30s - and on the Coal Branch until 1947. They had three children: Wayne, Ardell, and Gary.

Wayne married Margaret Neuhold, and works as a maintenance supervisor for Gulf Oil in Edmonton. They have two children: Douglas and Theresa.

Ardell made education her career. She taught for several years in Evansburg, and presently teaches in St. Albert, where she also resides.

Gary, a Millwright, married Dawna Mae Clark. He and Dawna Mae have been involved in the business life of Evansburg and Entwistle. They built the Snack Shack and operated it for several years. They are now running Read's Building Supplies in Entwistle, and Dawna Mae has a Travel Office in Evansburg. They have two children: Wesley and Thea.

Bob Mitchell married Peggy Andison. They had three children (Bob, Lynn and Doug) and live in Edmonton in retirement.

Annie Mitchell died in about 1932.

Peggy Mitchell married Harry Thomson who died several years ago. They had two children.

Jack Mitchell and his wife, Pearl, have two children: Jack and Denny.

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Sr. moved to Coleman where Mrs. Mitchell died and was buried. Mr. Mitchell lived in Evansburg for many years. He died on Christmas Eve, 1957, and is buried beside his wife.

Bob Armour

Bob Armour, who was Mrs. Mitchell's brother, and who had served in the Boer War, also came to Evansburg to work in the mine. He was in charge



Bob Armour, John Mitchell, Jack and Bob Mitchell, Peggy and son Douglas, Mrs. Mitchell and grandson Wayne.

of sinking the shaft for the mine. Although he moved away for several years, he came back and lived the last years of his life in a little house in Evansburg. He died in 1972 at the age of ninety-two.

The Youngs

by Lily Goodwin

Robert Young Sr. arrived in Canada from Newcastle, England in about 1906. By trade he was a carpenter and cabinet maker. Because of this he went to work for Chicago Builders as carpenter foreman. Robert Young Sr. had also been an undertaker for sometime in England, and had made coffins. At one time he owned a Fish and Chip shop.

Chicago Builders was contracting building homes for prospective coal mines and towns. Subsequently he built houses for the towns of Brule, Pocahontas, Exshaw and Fernie, B.C. While he was in Fernie, Mrs. Sophia Young came over from England, with their three small children, Eva, Lily and Bob.

After finishing the buildings in Fernie, he was transferred to Evansburg to build the company buildings and houses for Pembina Peerless Coal Company. When some of the homes were completed in 1913, Mrs. Young and her family moved to Evansburg and lived in one of the company's first houses. She took in boarders who were employed by the coal company. The United Church was built by Mr. Young and is still in use. As there was no school in Evansburg at this time, all children of school age had to walk to Entwistle to attend classes - including the young Youngs. They walked over what was known as the Railroad Bridge, which had been constructed only a few years previously.

When Chicago Builders had completed their contract and were moving on, Mr. Young decided to quit and go to work for the coal company in Evansburg, following his own line of work.

Shortly after this time they moved on to a homestead, one mile west and one mile south of Evansburg. He walked the two miles morning and evening back and forth to work.



Eva and Lily Young berry picking.



Mr. and Mrs. Bob Young Sr., sawing wood.

It was while living on the homestead that the Coal Company decided to make a model of their coal mine for advertising purposes. This working model was made by Mr. Young and stood about four feet tall. The underground entries and tracks were enclosed in a glass cage. Needless to say, this masterpiece, when completed, took prizes at leading world fairs, including Chicago and Toronto.

During the time the Young family lived on the homestead, they cut and delivered all the timber which was needed by the Coal Company over a period of years. They also had a sawmill which the boys ran. The railroad used lumber for coal doors to hold back the coal in the box cars.

Times on the homestead were tough, but one bright spot I remember was receiving a sack of flour, sacks of rolled oats and a pail of syrup, an unexpected gift.

The Youngs lived on the homestead until about

1928 when they built a restaurant and a rooming house in Evansburg and moved back there. By this time they had twelve children - eight boys, Bob, Joe, George, Tom, Jim, Ray, Doug and Norman, and also four girls - Lily, Eva, Isabelle and Gladys.

About 1936 the coal mine shut down and the Jasper Highway was moved north to run through the village, so Mr. Young decided to move his house and restaurant down to the new highway, for business reasons. Mrs. Young took charge of the cooking and managing of the restaurant while Mr. Young and some of the boys ran the garage.

It was while Mrs. Young was in business that some of the younger generation would remember some of the Christmas parties and presents that she donated to the community every year.

This restaurant was sold to Mrs. Palmer from Styal. Mr. and Mrs. Young built themselves a home and retired to the former location of the restaurant, where they lived until the time of their passing.

Other members of the Young family are: Eva Davis living in Edmonton, Gladys Dickson in Vancouver, Doug Young in Regina, Sask., Tom Young in Camrose and Ray Young in Parksville, B.C., Joe, Bob, George, Jim, Norman and Isabelle have passed away.



The young Youngs (L—R) Tom, Jim, Ray, Gladys, Doug, Norman and Billy Goodwin.



Crowd at the Robert Young Sr.'s 50th Wedding.



Crowd at Young's Golden Wedding in old hall.



Youngs White Cafe and boarding house.



Youngs Garage.

George Young

by Katherine Young

George Young was born in Fernie, B.C. in 1909. At the age of three he moved to Evansburg with his parents, brothers and sisters.

He attended school in Entwistle, walking across the railroad bridge, then later he went to school in Evansburg.

At fifteen years of age he quit school and went to work for his dad in a saw mill and did various other jobs.

In 1933 he married Katherine Dewald. They lived on a homestead three miles south of Evansburg.

In summer he did custom breaking and took any jobs he could get. The winters were spent hunting and trapping. For one year he looked after his brother-in-law's mink and fox farm.

Their first son Wayne was born in 1938. He is now married to Pat Lott of Hinton and they live in Quesnel, B.C. They have two children a boy and a girl.

In 1940 their second son, Alan, was born. He married Anne Miko of Evansburg, where they still live. They also have a boy and a girl.

George bought a truck and the business from Mr. Street in 1939. He hauled freight between Edmonton and Edson. They then moved into Evansburg.

Youngs Transport is still in business. Their son Alan, became a partner in 1963.

George retired from trucking in 1972 after thirty-four years of many long hours and lots of hard work. In the early years they endured many hardships. Roads were not paved. Once, after heavy rains, he went through a bridge at Magnolia.



George Young somewhere between Evansburg and Edson.



Wayne and Alan Young.



Young's truck, Magnolia Bridge

George and his wife also owned and operated the Evansburg Bottle Depot. After George passed away in 1975 at sixty-six years of age, Alan took over the Bottle Depot which he still runs today.

George served as councilor for the Village of Evansburg for three years, from 1958 to 1960.

Kate was a member of the Evansburg Ladies Auxiliary for several years.

Henry and Elizabeth (Bess) Christianson

by A. Taylor

Henry Christianson married Elizabeth (Bess) Johns in Cameron, Wisconsin in the year 1910.

In 1912 they came to Calgary, where Bess sewed for the elite. She introduced the "Hobble Skirt" to



Henry and Bess Christianson, 1965.

Calgary. Fashion played a big part in her life, always watching for the new trends in fashion and following them.

Henry and Bess attended the first Calgary Stampede. There was standing room only, and they stood with the Indians. It was a gala celebration indeed.

Henry and his brother, Melvin, took up homesteads south of Mayerthorpe "before its time" in the year 1912.

The end of the Canadian Northern Railway steel was at Sangudo. Henry and Melvin cleared the right-of-way west of the Pembina River to make grocery money.

During the first two winters, they would return to Calgary where Bess had good customers, and Henry worked. They cleared land in summer and worked in Edmonton the next two winters, Bess sewing and Henry driving a heavy draft team on a dray.

Henry and Bess had no children of their own, but they enjoyed the neighbor's children. One neighbor was Feltys with two children, Dick and Gertie, (Mrs. Gertie Smith, now of Entwistle). They had enough land cleared to prove up their homestead, and farmed until 1920 when they came to Evansburg. Henry to work in the mine, and Bess to continue her dress-making.

Their first winter was spent in a tent cabin rented from Raymonds, and then they were able to rent a mine house.

Henry and Bess loved to dance, ski, skate and grow beautiful flowers and gardens. Henry liked hunting and fishing. Both Henry and Bess were avid berry pickers.

Bess was instrumental in getting many people into the great outdoors to enjoy the sport of skiing, making wintertime pleasurable. She headed the ski group through the twenties and thirties.

Asle Seppola made many pairs of skis, from selected birch, for the group. Asle took first prize at the Seattle World Fair with a pair of flawless hickory skis.

The ski group dwindled, but Bess never lost her enthusiasm. She took the children skiing until late in her life. Bess gave up skiing at the age of eighty-one. Her skis, made for her by Asle Seppola, are now in the Evansburg Museum.

The Pembina Peerless coal mine shut down and many miners moved to Drumheller. Bess and Henry went too, and worked in winter, returning to Evansburg in the summer. In 1936 they purchased their home for fifty dollars and the lot for fifteen dollars.

Henry had a narrow escape from a falling "nigger-head" in the mine. Bess made up their minds, and firmly put her foot down - no more mining for Henry. They returned to Evansburg to stay, and Henry worked as a clerk in C. J. Macphree's General Store in Evansburg. When the store was sold to Otto Wolff, Henry worked at Wolff's Agency until his retirement.

With twinkling blue eyes, a quick smile and ready wit, Henry was well liked and respected by all who knew him.

For many years the Christianson's yard was the beauty spot of Evansburg, with their beautiful flowers and well-groomed grounds. They gave away thousands of plants and laurel willow cuttings to

anyone who would plant them. Their enthusiasm in horticulture was contagious, and spread throughout the district.

Bess was always a friend of the kids. It gave her much pleasure to make and give away pretty dresses to little girls - and to big girls, too.

Bess never went out of her yard without being fashionably dressed, complete with make-up, hair do, and gloves.

In 1955 they flew to Wisconsin to visit relatives. Bess believed flying was the safest way to travel. Henry bought a car and learned to drive, adding pleasure to their retirement years. They filled their time, "doing their thing".

In 1964 Henry passed away at the age of seventy-six years. It was a very sad day for Bess. However she managed to rally and kept herself busy with sewing and keeping the yard beautiful.

In 1967, accompanied by Annabell Taylor, Bess flew to Wisconsin. She was eighty-one years young, and thoroughly enjoyed the flight, showing no fear when the plane ran into turbulence.

Bess sewed her last dress at age eighty-seven. Her eyesight failed and at age ninety-one she moved to the Good Samaritan Nursing Home at Stony Plain, where with all the attention and kind words, she was happy.

Bess Christianson passed away at the nursing home at the age of ninety-four years and ten months on June 30, 1981.

Bess is buried beside Henry in the Evansburg Cemetery.

The Laschinsky Family

by Annie Graham

My father, Paul F. Laschinsky, was born in the province of Silesia, Germany (now Polish territory) and he received his training in gardening in the Royal greenhouses of Castle Sybillenort -- the Silesian Windsor, called this because it was built by the



Mr. Laschinsky's house he built on the homestead.

same architect that built Windsor Castle. It was owned by the Duke of Brunswick, who also was a relative of the Royal Family. In Sybillenort no money was spared to keep the park and the surroundings beautiful, so my father had a good training there. When he married my mother, Johanna C. Schenkel, who was a trained florist, they settled in the town of Rosdzin and there they ran a market garden, greenhouses and a flower shop. Business was good since Upper Silesia was a highly industrialized region with mines and smelters, however, acid rain and pollution (something Canada is experiencing now) took their toll on vegetation, etc. This form of pollution is not good for gardening. About this time Canada sent out brochures about its opportunities and my father decided to have a look at the country, especially B.C. because of its climate for fruit and flowers.

Father sold his property in Rosdzin, and in 1914 he and Uncle Ernest Schenkel set out for Canada, leaving Hamburg, Germany in July and landing in Edmonton on August 2. When World War I broke out, the two of them found themselves as enemy aliens, unable to speak English, so they could not travel through the country and they each decided to take a homestead in the bush near Junkins (now Wildwood). This was four or five miles southwest of the town. Here my father tried his best to exist alone, knowing nothing about cooking or housekeeping. But I understand the Otto family, who were neighbors, helped out with some of the needs.

Of course when the war broke out, all communication with us ceased. We didn't know what he did, or where he was. On the homestead, he tried to clear land, built a log house, and with a friend's advice, built hotbeds. In these he raised early lettuce and radishes, etc., which he shipped to Mountain Park. Being so far from the railroad, and unable to speak English, created problems. He never saw any money for his produce, as the gentleman in question left the country.

To earn extra cash, my father and uncle went to southern Alberta to work in the harvest there. When my father returned to his homestead, he found that hail had smashed his hotbeds and coyotes had taken his chickens, so the neighbors said. He soon realized he would never be able to make a go of it in the bush. There were no power tools or bulldozers in those days, and everything had to be done by hand with axe, saw and a lot of sweat, and the trees on the homestead were almost as large as Douglas Firs.

So father now decided to move to Evansburg, a thriving mining town. He bought eight and a half acres of land by the Lobstick River from the Pembina Coal Company. There he began to clear trees, built hotbeds and a greenhouse. He fashioned the furnace for the greenhouse from clay and bricks, and also made his own flowerpots for the plants. There was plenty of fuel with wood and coal.

In the meantime the war had ended and my father attempted to locate his family through the Swiss Red Cross. We had also moved, as our home town, Rosdzin, was right on the Polish border and during the war we were forced to evacuate several times. We had been trying to make a living from the flower store since my father had left, and during our absences, the flowers would all dry up. My mother restocked several times, but finally gave up when the funds she had were all gone.

My mother obtained employment in a seed store, as manager, which meant moving to Mannheim, in western Germany. There we lived through a lot of air-raids, as Mannheim was heavily bombed. We



Mrs. Laschinsky in greenhouse.

had virtually jumped from the frying pan into the fire. While in Mannheim, my sister finished her schooling and was trained as a music teacher, and I as a commercial artist. I designed patterns to be applied to materials.

With the end of the war, the area in which we lived came under French occupation and it became necessary to begin learning to speak French. When my father finally located us through the Swiss Red Cross, he advised us in his letters to learn English, as we would need that language in Canada. I still have the letter my father wrote describing his life on the homestead. He began proceedings for us to come to Canada, which took a period of four years. We finally were permitted to emigrate, and left Germany in June, 1922, and landed in Quebec July 9. My sister, never very strong, was seasick all the way over. Because of rising inflation in Europe, our savings had dwindled, and money we were supposed to have received on our arrival never came. We sent a telegram to father, and set out on the long train journey across Canada. As my sister and I both played the violin, we spent some of the time playing for the entertainment of our fellow passengers. When we reached Edmonton, father was not there to meet us, so we proceeded on to Evansburg, arriving at two A.M. Still no father--bush all around and a heavy fog. Mr. E. Purin, an Evansburg mer-

chant, could speak some German, and offered to take us to where father lived. He had his flat-deck truck parked at the station, so we climbed on and, bumping over rough roads, arrived at the old townsite.

The Otto family lived at the old townsite, and father had built a lean-to against the side of their house. Mr. Purin drummed father out of bed. He had just received the telegram that day, and was going to clean up next day and leave for Edmonton to meet us. My mother's first words were: "Paul, you look like the devil!" Since he had no place for us to stay, he asked Mr. Purin to take us to the hotel.

In the morning we were served a typical miner's breakfast---three eggs, several strips of bacon and four slices of toast. But since our stomachs had shrunk during the starvation years, we could not do it justice.

We started housekeeping in one of the houses in the old townsite. We girls tried our best to fit into our new life. My sister tried to give violin lessons, but the violin is a difficult instrument to master, and those who thought to do it in ten easy lessons soon gave up. We joined the dance orchestra formed by Dave Lamont, who was a fireboss in the mine. Our orchestra consisted of T. Davidson, piano; A. Burgess, flute; H. Narraway, cornet; B. Clark, drums; and Liesel and I, violins. As we had trained in classical music, it was hard to switch to jazz. My sister also formed a small orchestra for classical music with Isa Strickland, piano; "Frizzle" Hale, saxophone; Alex Stockwell, trombone, and Mr. Stokes, cornet. They met weekly, and added to the cultural side of the community.

The work and income situations through the 1920s was good, but with the stock market crash in late 1929, work began to slacken. As the "dirty thirties" wore on, the mine operations were reduced to three days a week, then two, later one, and finally completely halted in 1936. The miners left to seek work elsewhere. My father had his place under cultivation by that time, ready for business: now no

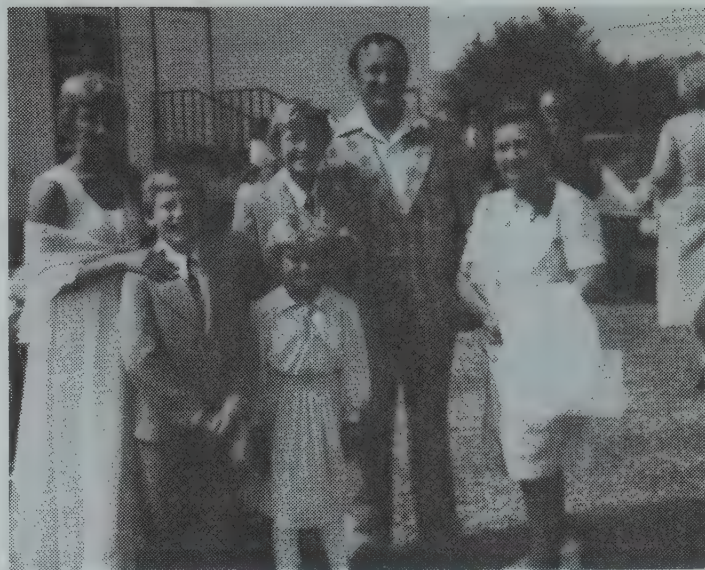
customers! These were tough times, but we had a garden, some sheep and chickens, but no cash. My mother made mattresses and quilts from the wool. I could sew, so I started to go out to sew for a dollar a day, and walked nearly every day over the CNR bridge to Entwistle, rain or shine. The bridge in those days had no walkway or railings. There were some barrels filled with water at the side of the tracks. One had to make sure before starting across that you were not likely to be caught by the train. Being on the bridge when a train went by was quite an experience: a shaking bridge and nothing but the barrels to hang onto. But the sewing I did provided some cash.

Evansburg had a United Church; also an Anglican Church. When the mine closed, the resident minister left, also the doctor. The Roman Catholic Church was in Entwistle; one being built later in Evansburg.

During the bad years, my mother suffered a bad accident to her spine. There was no money for treatment, and as the inflammation spread, it left mother on her back for almost a year. Later on when I began to sew for customers in Edmonton, I was able to pay for treatments. My father died of cancer in 1940 in the General Hospital, Edmonton, and was buried in Beachmount Cemetery. Prior to his death he deeded the property to us two girls with a stipulation we look after our mother.

I was married to John Graham and have two children, Lore and Lance. After father's death I moved to Evansburg. My husband passed away of a heart attack in 1945. Lance was only five years old, and it was a struggle to get by on a small veteran's widow's allowance. My mother looked after the garden and family while I went out sewing, so we managed.

Both Lore and Lance attended school in Evansburg. Lore's principal was Mrs. Platt and Lance's, Mr. Zuar. Lore worked in the Evansburg Creamery and Macphee's store. After taking a business course in Edmonton, she worked for the Alberta Government Companies Branch until moving to



Mrs. A. Graham with her son and his family

Kamloops in 1964. She was employed in the office of Tranquille School as a secretary. While working there she met Robert Laudan, office manager for the Department of Public Works Regional Office, situated at Tranquille. They were married in 1966, are both now retired and work at caring for their home and grounds.

My son Lance left school at the age of sixteen and went to work in the oil fields that were then starting up around Drayton Valley. He began as a "roughneck" and worked his way up to the position of technical adviser to his company, Swaco, a branch of Dresser Industries of Houston, Texas. He is called out all over where his services are required. Lance is married to Jean Spencer of Condor. He has four children; Tammy, who was married in 1979 to Jim Robinson; Lance Jr., now fifteen; Kelly, thirteen; and Carol, eleven. All are active in swimming, hockey and skiing. Lance and his family now live on the property which my father originally owned.

While in Evansburg I was active in the United Church, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Royal Canadian Legion of which I was a charter member and am also a life member. I made many friends and saw a lot of people come and go. When my mother began to suffer the ills of old age, I moved to Kamloops with her in 1975, to be closer to hospital and family members. My mother passed away in December, 1975 in the Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops, and

is buried in Hillside Cemetery. She was ninety-four years of age at the time of her death and had been active until the final few months of her life.

Looking back over my nearly eighty years of life, I can't say I have gathered any moss. I was too long a widow with only a small income, but my life was rich and colorful in experience. We never gave up and survived in the face of what seemed like insurmountable odds. Canada can be and is good to those able to adjust to our way of life.

The Rheins

by Irma

Paul, Emma and daughter Irma arrived here in Canada at Evansburg April 19, 1914.

We were met by Uncle Joe Keen my mother's brother, with a team of oxen. Oh what a trip out to Park Court. That is where we stayed for two weeks until they got a house in the Evansburg townsite.

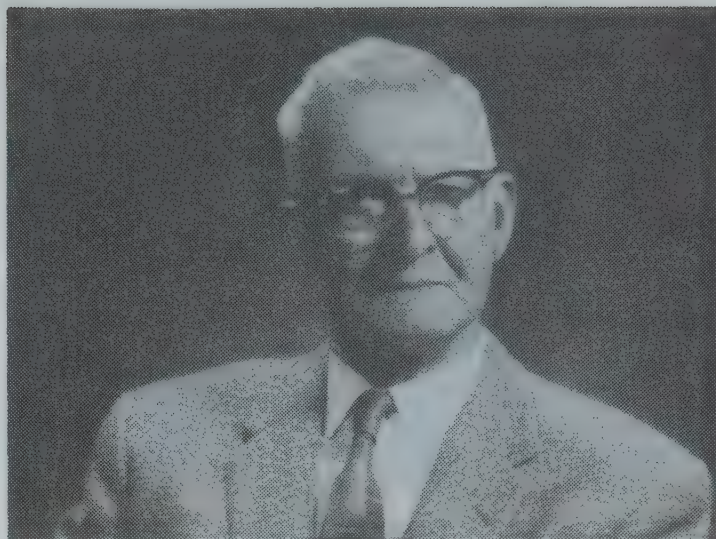
I remember it so well. The oxen bogged down so badly, the wagon reach broke and we got as far as Bjornstads. They had to get the team of horses to pull out the oxen.

At first Dad could not get work in the coal mine but the First World War broke out in 1914 and then they had lots of work.

The town also got bigger. There was no school at first but then they used one of the houses for a school until they built the school.

There was only one teacher for all the grades. We lived two years in the Evansburg townsite. Then Dad got a homestead three miles out of town. It had to be cleared of trees. With a war on they thought they could at last grow things. They had three horses two cows and one pig with three little ones.

Dad kept on working at the mine. Then the people of Evansburg needed milk so Dad supplied them with that. At first I delivered milk after



Paul Rhein



Mrs. Paul Rhein and Grandson, Ronnie, 1939.

school. Dad would bring the horse and buggy in to town when he worked the afternoon shift. Then the milk business grew bigger and bigger until we were milking twenty cows.

Yes we had lots of work but we were also a very happy family.

My brothers and sisters were all born out at Evansburg. Herbert, Robert, Mary, Eddy, Margie and Evelyn. They are all doing well. My mother passed away when she was only fifty nine. My dad is eighty six years old. He at least enjoyed all his grandchildren but my mother was not so lucky.

In 1924 Bill Jaschke came to Canada. He worked in the mine. Bill and I were married in 1937. Times were really bad. The mine did not work steady, so it was rough. From the time we were married we lived



The Rhein Family

Herbert, Evelyn, Mary, Eddie, Margaret, Robert, Irma

at Cadomin. We had two boys, Ronald and Gerry. Both are married. Ron lives at Little Smoky. He is an electrician for the Peace-pipe. His wife's name is Loretta and their son is Duane. Gerry has his own shop called Automotive Car Care. His wife's name is Pauline and their daughter is Carmin Lee.

My brother Herbert married Violet Richard and lives in Edmonton. Robert married Phyllis Kreye and lives in Rocky Mountain House. Mary married Jack Riddell and they live in Kelowna. Margie married Rory Kreye and they live in Victoria, B.C. Eddy married Winnie Cowan and they live in Chilliwack. Evelyn married Ronnie Wolff and they have a store in Fort McMurray.

Irma and Bill Jaschke now live in Edmonton.

Evansburg District in Days Gone by as I saw It

by W. Langer

In the spring of 1914 we arrived at the Grand Trunk Railway station; a railway bunk car beside the track near the east switch of the Evansburg yard.

We were the Carl Langer family, (four) the Paul Rhein family (three), and Joe Keen's wife and two sons and Emil Keen, Joe's brother.

Uncle Joe Keen had come to Canada the year before to scout out the prospects. Being a coal

miner he had been directed to the North American Collieries at Evansburg and there had got promise of jobs and shelter for us.

We settled into what was called the old townsite which at that time had eight houses arranged in an L shape all along the edge of the flat with a water well at equal distances from all the houses.

Just north of us, across the Lobstick River, was an abandoned coal mine shaft. It had all been left there in favour of the new site where the town of Evansburg is now. The abandoned mine shaft was filled in by W. Otto in 1922.

It was a great place to live. Our garden on the north side of the Lobstick was very productive and fishing was fabulous. Once the men built a trap in the river and in the morning there were washtubs full of fish of every kind.

The grand plan was to get a homestead and work at the mine to get started.

All the land for four miles to the north belonged to the coal company. Beyond that was open land so that's where they located. Dad soon realized it would take an awful lot of work to prove up with that huge stand of timber to clear. Dad was doing well at the mine and dropped his homestead.

To get to Joe Keen's place you went north one mile and a half, then east a mile on the Jasper Trail to the old north road (Trail of Ninety-Eight, some said) then four miles north. To the west of him was the Mike Blasius place. Joe hung right on and years later sold it to the Wintellers. In the rainy season it took a mighty long time for Joe's oxen to drag the stone boat to town through that seven-mile-long trough of mud.

Paul Rhein settled on the Jasper Trail about three miles northwest of town. In the summer, when the Lobstick River was low, the settlers in that direction used a bush road shortcut to town. The school children, walking three or four miles to school, could cross the river on a swinging cable foot bridge.



The Bill Langer Family

One summer, not long after we had settled in, we got a terrible fright. As I was sitting on the porch, some people the likes I had never seen before, came up to the house.

Dad was at work and we were alone. I rushed into the house yelling, "wild Indians, wild Indians". Mother was equal to the occasion and brought out two large loaves of home baked bread as a peace offering. This was exactly what they wanted. They gave us two gallons of blue berries which they had brought for just that purpose. They had been on their way west on the Jasper Trail.

In the early days many homesteaders used the Jasper Trail to get to Entwistle and Magnolia. Hood's Crossing on the Pembina was a good one. A bed of coal on the river bottom was like a smooth flat floor making the water level even all the way across. On the east side you went into the mouth of a creek, then up over a low divide past Round Lake to Magnolia. To get to Entwistle you just went straight south.

West from Hood's crossing were the coal banks. This was the top seam of the two seams of coal along the river.

The top seam was, and still is, burning underground sending up plumes of steam and smoke. An English nobleman (Southesk) travelling by here in 1861, remarked on this, calling it a volcano. All travellers passed this way until the advent of the railway.

The coal banks valley was a great spot for saskatoon picking and for picnicking, swimming and fishing. In winter farmers shot coal off the banks onto the ice for winter fuel.

The Jasper Trail went west through Rheins, then MacDiarmids and McCuspie's to where the Lobstick River turns north, then crossed the river to stay south of Chip Lake. At this place a tree, (called a lobstick) with all the bottom branches cut off leaving a plume at the top, marked the start of the trail on the east side of the river. From this tree the Lobstick River got its name.

Things remembered: Fishing at the point (joining of the Lobstick and Pembina). Dad catching a twenty-four pound jackfish and a fourteen pound pickerel - fifteen goldeye in fifteen casts, catching catfish in winter, trapping on the coal banks and on the ice. Then there was rafting the Pembina to Zinkers coal mine, serving eggs and fresh deer meat on birchbark, berrypickers would see us all naked on the raft as we floated by. There was also going across the ferry and climbing all those switchbacks and going along the steep river banks to Entwistle. Loads brought back - bricks, cedar shingles, hay, bran, and once a McCormick Deering binder.

Then there was delivering milk in Arnupville (between C.N.R. and the graveyard) in thirty below winter weather - frozen cream was sticking out of the bottles.

Sad times also - death of my uncle Emil Keen by an explosion in the mine - also a Mr. Greaves - both young men. A very sad funeral at the Entwistle graveyard.

I can well remember the 1918 flu - everybody going around with a cheesecloth mask. You could be arrested if you were in public unmasked. One of our neighbors turned black overnight so they said.

On the flat above ours there was a brickyard that was for some reason abandoned. Here the uptown boys did battle with ours, throwing chunks of brick across the pile at each other.

Though our school had only two rooms - up to fifty pupils to a room - they turned out a lot of good people. Several doctors and lawyers and quite a few teachers.

There were two dairies to serve the town. There was Caudle's Dairy just west of town and Rhein's about three miles north.

The North American Collieries tippie was really a modern miracle. When a car of coal was hoisted to the top it automatically dumped the coal onto a scale to be weighed, then it went down over several grids that separated the sizes and onto conveyers to the rail car being loaded with that size. There was even a chain taking slack to the boiler.

The coalyard was connected to both the Canadian Northern Railway and the Grand Trunk Pacific. The company had their own engine to switch the rail cars. This engine was later broken up and sold for scrap.

The coal-face-miners were mostly Japanese, Scottish and Germans. When I worked there, my wage was fifty-two cents an hour (boy's rate).

About 1930 things were going into a depression and the next year we moved onto the land Dad had bought at the top of the Lobstick hill. There we waited out the hungry thirties.

When the government relief camp was built on the Pembina, we could visit there on Sunday and such a feed as you would never get at home. Another thing, those boys would sell you a blanket, a pair of army boots, or a coat, for one dollar.

Langer Family

Karl and Hedwig Langer came to Evansburg from Westphalia, Germany in the year 1914 with their three oldest children. Nine more children were born here, three of which are deceased. They lived on the south bank of the Lobstick River, along with many other mine families. The location is now called the Limberdick Ranch.



Karl Langer and Lillian , 1935.

Karl worked in the mine in Evansburg until it closed. Then he purchased a farm one mile north, where he moved his family after Hedwig passed away. On this farm he raised his family by himself, with the exception of Lillian who was a baby at that time. Havish, the oldest daughter, raised her.

The farm was a bush quarter so Karl and the boys had to clear it all by hand, and build the buildings. They farmed with horses as there were not many tractors around in those days. They also had a few cattle that were pastured in the river valley east of the farm. These cattle had to be brought in every evening for milking.

Some of the boys were avid hunters and fishermen so they kept meat on the table for the family. They were all good berry pickers. Berries were abundant all around here in those days. Karl and the boys canned many jars of syrup, jam and fruit for winter use.

Karl Langer passed away in 1941.

The family was grown up and left home, one by one.

The oldest girl, Havish married Tom Purcell and took baby Lillian to raise. They went to Nacmine, Alberta where Tom worked in the mine. They had two children, Joan and Marion. They now reside in Victoria, B.C.

Bill went to Cadomin to work in the mine. There he married Anne Bodenchuck and they had two children, Lyle and Darlene. When the mines closed down in the Coal Branch, Bill and Anne moved to Edson. Bill worked for the C.N.R. until his retirement. They are still in Edson.

Herb went to Robb in the Coal Branch and worked in the mine. He married Edna Meldrum. They had three girls, Elda, Shannon and Erin. They moved to Drayton Valley when the Coal Branch closed and Herb worked for the town. They are now retired and live in Drayton Valley.

Fred went to Yellowknife and spent a few years working in the gold mines. He came back to Vancouver and married Jean Wales. They have three children, Gale, Fred Jr. and Bobby. They are retired now and live in Vancouver.

Robert went to Robb with Herb, to work in the mines. There he married Mildred Kerek and they have one son Leonard. They moved to Edmonton when the Coal Branch closed down and Rob works for McMillan Bloedel. They still reside in Edmonton.

Irwin went to Edmonton to be a cook, and a cook he became. He cooked at several hotels in Edmonton including the McDonald, and the Airport Hotels. He went to Hinton as chef at the Athabasca Hotel. There he married Ethel Cooper. They have four children, Brian, Sharon, Lyle and Sandra. They next moved to Killam where Irwin worked as cook and dietician at the Killam Hospital. Then they went back to Edson, where they still live and manage the Blue Jay Cafe.

Emil and Arthur were left alone to run the farm, which they did together until Arthur went into the Army in 1944. Then Emil was on the farm alone until 1947, when he married Audrey Baxter. They have three children, Elaine, Marlene and Gordon. Emil and Audrey still reside on the farm where they raised their family. In 1961 Emil went to work for the Department of Highways, to supplement the farm income. He still works there along with farming.

Elaine married Wayne Deines of Edmonton. They have two children, Kelvin and Keltie, and reside in Edmonton where Wayne has a Micro-film business.

Marlene married Les Bossert of Veteran, Alberta and they have two children, Charlene and Rene. They live in Edmonton. Les works for Western Display and Marlene is assistant secretary at the nearby school which her children attend.

Gordon resides in Edmonton and works for C.N. Tele-Communications.

When Arthur came home from the Army in 1946 he worked in the Evansburg Creamery until Canadian Superior moved an oil rig in north of Evansburg. He then became employed with Canadian Superior and was still with the company when they moved to Camrose. There he married Marcella Barons. They have three children, Garth, Kevin and Adele. They stayed in Camrose for a few years. Art was battery operator for Canadian Superior. They now reside in Sundre, Alberta, where he is battery operator for Canadian Superior at the Harmattan gas field not far from Sundre.

Lillian married John Sloane of East Coulee. They have two children, Patrick and Lynn. They reside in East Coulee.

Three of the boys were in the army during the Second World War, Herb, Emil and Arthur. Arthur was the only one that went overseas. He was in Holland, when they were cleaning up the rubble after the war. The war had ended soon after he was sent overseas.

Thomas Pajak

by M. Parfett

Thomas Pajak was born in Austria in 1890. He immigrated to Canada in 1907 and worked at road construction in southern Alberta. There he befriended another Polish immigrant, Peter Janeszewski, and his family. Peter had purchased a homestead south of Evansburg and was bringing his family from Europe to settle there.

Thomas fell in love with Paulina Janeszewski. They were married in Edmonton, July 18, 1914. They returned to the family homestead and Tom started to work at the mine that was just being developed in Evansburg.

Their first daughter, Helen, was born on the homestead in 1915. She lived only six weeks, dying of a bladder infection, and was buried in the Evansburg cemetery.

Soon after Paulina and Thomas rented a home in the town of Evansburg, where their son, Anthony was born in 1918.

Tom moved his family to Winnipeg in 1920 where he worked for a short time in an iron foundry, then in the Canadian National Railway yards.

A second son, Walter, was born in August, 1920.

They then returned to Evansburg where Tom worked in the coal mine temporarily. In 1923 Tom transferred to the coal mine in Wabamun. Stanley was born there in 1923.

Anthony became very ill with spinal tuberculosis and passed away in 1924. He was buried in the Entwistle cemetery.

In 1926 they moved back to Evansburg where Tom got permanent employment at the mine and purchased a home in the town. Alexander was born there in 1926. A daughter, Mary, was born in 1929, and a son, Louis, in 1932.

Tom bought a homestead four and one half miles south of Evansburg as soon as one became available. He spent all his spare time clearing and improving it.

When the mine closed in 1936 Tom moved the family to the homestead. Two more children were born, William in 1935 and Elizabeth in 1939.

The children all attended school in Evansburg, walking four miles daily until World War II broke out.



Pauline and Thomas Pajak, 1944.

Walter served in the Canadian Army (Royal Canadian Ordinance Corps) from 1942 to 1946. He married Lois Jones in 1948. They have three children. Myron, born 1950, is a Correctional Officer in Burnaby, B.C. Rhona, born 1955, is a Director for John Howard Society in Nanaimo, B.C. Fraser, born 1957, is employed with B.C. Telephones. He is married to Barbara Baldes.

Stan Pajak married Phyllis Kamloh. They have three sons and one daughter and live in Calgary. Barry is married and living in Edmonton. Ron is married to Eleanor Baine and they have three children - two boys and one girl - and live in Edmonton. Rick married Dianne Papineau. They live in Calgary. Trudy married John Kutcar. They live in Saskatchewan and have two daughters.

Alex joined the permanent Canadian Forces Royal Canadian Signal Corps in 1947. He saw duty in Africa, Seoul, Korea and Yukon. He retired in 1972. He and his wife, Dorothy, now reside in Gibsons, B.C.

Mary married Stewart Parfett in 1960. They have three children - Dianne born 1960, John born 1962, and James born 1964. They live in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta.

Louis married Joan Albus and they have two sons, Kim and Allyson. They live in Gibsons, B.C. Louis passed away in 1980 of a heart attack.

William married Marlene Nelson and they have four children, one daughter and three sons. They live in Calgary.

Thomas suffered a stroke and passed away in March, 1979. He is buried in the Evansburg cemetery.

Elizabeth lives with Paulina in the Rivercrest Nursing Home in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta.

The Kitaguchi Family

by Tad and Tets Kitaguchi

Around the turn of the century, Tatsuzo Kitaguchi dreamed of a better life in the new world. In Japan, he worked in the pits of a mine, and also, for a while, in the navy.

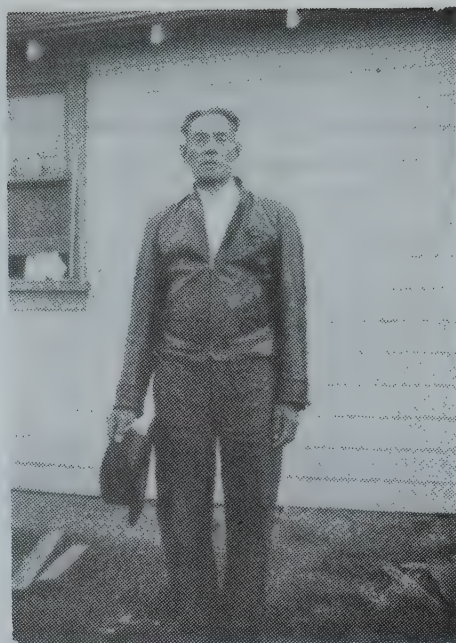
One day in 1907 his dream became a reality. He left his homeland and came to Vancouver. A year or so later his bride, Shige, came to share his dream in the new world.

They lived in Cumberland, B.C. on Vancouver Island for the next eight years. Tatsuzo, a collier, worked on the job he knew best - mining coal.

Tatsuzo and his wife had many trying times during the early days in Cumberland because of not knowing the English language. Shige would often mention the shopping days. They were always days of frustration and were quite an ordeal.

Three children were born there. Tadashi (Tad), Masayoshi (Massey) and Fuji (Lillian).

In 1915, they decided to leave Cumberland and make their new home in a mining town. Being the



Tatsuzo Kitaguchi

first Japanese family to arrive in Evansburg, they attracted some attention. Tatsuzo was a well-built man six feet tall. Because of his stature, he was soon nicknamed "Long Tom" by his fellow miners.

Six children were born in Evansburg. Namie (Numya) was the first Japanese Canadian to be born in the town. Then came Tetchon (Tets), Fatsumi (died at age four), Solomay (Sally), Sueo (Jimmy), and Musao (Charlie).

In the very early days Evansburg had two trains operating - the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk. Also, to cross the Pembina, you had to go on a ferry because there was no traffic bridge.

Tad's first public school teacher was Mr. Sullivan. Because Tad knew no English, and the teacher knew only English, it was hard for both of them. His Sunday School teacher was a pretty lady, the oldest daughter of the Young family. The Sunday School was held in a log cabin by the mine dump.

While the family lived in Evansburg, the boys were interested in all community activities and sports - hockey, baseball, boxing, etc. The girls were also in-

terested in basketball and hockey. However, the greatest sport enjoyed by all was swimming in the "ole swimmin' hole" in the Pembina and Lobstick rivers.

Tad and Massey worked in the mine when they became old enough, and Tets worked the last year it was operating. It closed down in 1936 and the mine was sealed.

In the spring of 1936 Tad, Mas, Tets and their friend Art "Rusty" Melvin left Evansburg to find work in B.C. It was a night to remember, a wet, cold, dreary night. Soaked to the skin, they hopped the west bound freight for Vancouver.

After several fruitless days of job hunting around sawmills in Vancouver, Rusty decided to try elsewhere and left for points up the west coast. Tad, Mas, and Tets remained in Vancouver for a few more days. Fortunately, a few jobs opened up at a pulp mill in Woodfibre, B.C.

Then the family moved to Vancouver. Shige reluctantly left her home and friends in Evansburg. She became ill and died two months later. She was laid to rest in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Vancouver.

In 1941, during the war years, the families, because of their ancestral background, were removed from the coastal area and sent to various parts of Canada. Tadish and family, Tetchon, Sueo, and Musao were sent to work on a sugarbeet farm in Raymond, Alberta. Their father joined them there. Massey and his wife, Claire, went to Toronto, Ontario. Numya, who was married before the war had her home in Raymond. Soon Fuji and her family joined them.

In 1953, Tatsuzo's health began to fail. His years in the mine affected him with silicosis. He died in 1954. Before his death, he requested that Shige's remains be brought to Lethbridge. This was done and they are both buried in Lethbridge.

Tad and his wife, Esther, are retired and live in



Picnic by the Pembina River, 1917. Tadishi standing at back in Bloomer Pants - 16 years old.



Mr. and Mrs. Fujisaki. Mr. and Mrs. Yanamura and three children also three Kitaguchis.



Tatsuzo and Shige Kitaguchi's farewell Party
b.r. (L—R) Ray Melvin, Mr. Kitaguchi, Mrs. Greaves, Not Known, Mrs. Purin, Mr. Purin, F.R. (L—R) Mrs. Ray Melvin, Mrs. Kitaguchi, Mrs. Muldoon, Mrs. Mitchell, Jessie MacDiarmid.

Lethbridge. They have a daughter, Evelyn Reham, and two grandchildren.

Massey and his wife, Claire, are retired and live in Toronto, Ontario.

Fuji and her husband, Tosh Miyagawa, live in Salmon Arm, B.C. They have two daughters, Eileen Kojiwara and Vivian O'hara, and four grandchildren.

Namie and her husband, Jiro Iwasa, live in Brooks, Alberta. They have one son, Tets, who is married and living in Calgary.

Tets and his wife, Aki, live in Hinton, Alberta. They have one son, Dennis, and a daughter, Melinda Chorniak, and four grandchildren.

Sally and her husband, Kaz Haraga, live in Milk River, Alberta. They have three sons, Vic, Robert and Rodney, and three daughters, Carol Sakone, Sandra, and Corinne Clelande, and five grandchildren.

Jimmy and his wife, Lil, live in Lethbridge. They have one son, Douglas, and three daughters, Laura Inabu, Donna Robinson, and Brenda, and three grandchildren.

Charlie and his wife, Rose, live in Hinton. They have two sons, Ronnie and Danny, and one daughter, Becky Leonard of Campbell River, B.C.



Pembina Coal Co. in Evansburg.

The Melling Family

The Melling family came to Canada from Lancashire, England in 1912, and settled in Evansburg in 1918. The family consisted of Peter and Anne Melling, children Joseph, Lily, Peter Jr., Thomas and John (Jack). Peter Sr. was pit boss with North American Collieries, known for their "Pembina Peerless Coal." The Mellings left Evansburg in 1925.



Grand Trunk Pacific grader - winter 1908-1909

Frank and Tina Olson

by Helen Young

In 1915, my parents, Frank and Tina Olson, and the three oldest members of the family, Iva, Lester and Maynard, came to Canada from North Dakota, U.S.A., where my father had been farming. They filed on a homestead just north of Evansburg but soon gave it up and moved to Entwistle for a time. Here Norman was born in 1917. Sometime later they moved to Evansburg and my father worked in John and Abel Bjornstad's sawmill. My mother worked there too, helping to cook for the crew employed at the mill. I was born in Bjornstad's house in 1920.

Soon after this they returned to farming and "proved up" a homestead about eight miles south of Rochfort Bridge. They remained there until about 1927, when they sold the place and again moved into Evansburg to enable Norman and myself to attend school. They lived in Evansburg until they passed away, my father in 1930 and my mother in 1950.



Mrs. Olson and Helen.



Maynard and Lester Olson

My father was not steadily employed because of a heart condition, but my brothers Lester and Maynard worked at the mine.

I can recall during those homestead days my father hand ploughing and hand seeding a good sized oat field, and harvesting it with a hand scythe. And how primitive, especially by today's standards, was our way of life. Among the memories that stand out are the times my dad would go by team to Evansburg for groceries and supplies - a distance of about eighteen miles (thirty-six return) which took him two days. He would go to town one day and then rest the horses overnight and return the next. Norman and I always waited anxiously for his return because he always brought some special treats for us. We used to listen for the sound of the

wagon in summer coming over the "corduroy" roads. We could hear it long before he came into sight. Then there was great excitement as we anticipated what those treats would be.

Sometimes in the winter my dad would work in town to supplement our income. One time he walked those eighteen miles in sub-zero weather, in order to get home for Christmas.

In 1921 my sister Iva married Alex Burgess who was the electrician at the mine in Evansburg. They had three children all born there. They moved to Rossland, B.C. in 1930.

Lester eventually moved to the Coal Branch where he lost his life in an accident at the Cadomin coal mine in 1933.

Maynard and Norman both joined the army as soon as the war broke out in September 1939, and went overseas in December of that year. They remained overseas for most of the duration of the war, but Maynard came home a year sooner than Norman when he was wounded in action in Ortona, Italy. He was in hospital in Edmonton for a long time.

Maynard lost his life in an accident in 1955. He was married and living in Edmonton at the time.

Iva (Mrs. Burgess) died in 1974 and Alex in 1978.

Doug Young and I were married in 1940 and lived in Evansburg where Doug worked as a mechanic in his father's garage. In 1948 we moved to the Coal Branch. We have two children, Colleen and Darwin. We have lived in several places, including Vancouver, B.C. Presently we are living in Regina, Saskatchewan but we are hoping to retire in Evansburg eventually, if possible.

Harry and Bessie Greaves

Harry was born in Nottingham, England, November 11, 1894. He came to Canada with his father Wm. George Greaves, and an uncle Joe. (Joe took one look and returned to England).

Harry worked as a coal miner in Evansburg. He enlisted in the Canadian Army in 1916 and was sent to England with the 49ers. He fought in France where he was gassed and wounded and finally invalided back to England. While visiting his home town of Nottingham, he met and married Bessie Caulson, who worked in an ammunition factory making shells. They were married on Christmas Eve, 1917. Harry was sent back to Canada in the spring of 1918. Bessie was allowed to come in the fall of 1918.

They had three children, all raised and educated in Evansburg, Annie born in 1919, Tom born in 1921 and Fred born in 1934.

Harry's war disabilities finally caught up with him and he had to leave the mine.

In Harry's earlier years, he played baseball and soccer. Bessie went along to "root" or urge the team on. The games were never quiet!

They moved to an acreage east of Evansburg in 1933, where at one time or another they had cows, sheep, a pig or two, chickens, turkeys and a large garden. All the children hate hilling potatoes and weeding even to this day.

Bessie made and sold quilts to supplement Harry's disability pension. They also peddled milk and sold vegetables, chickens and, of course, turkeys at Christmas.

Harry liked to hunt and fish, and moose, deer, partridge, prairie chicken and fish graced their table.

About the middle of August, the first year on the acreage, they were surprised one morning to find moose tracks all through the garden. The tracks showed it had jumped a six foot chicken wire fence on the north, wandered through the garden and had not touched a thing. It then jumped a five and a half foot pagewire fence on the east, practically stepped over the railway fence and disappeared down the river valley. Being that daring, we are sure



Bessie and Harry Greaves, 1918.



Tom, Annie and Fred Greaves.

it was packed in sealers that winter.

Picking wild berries was a "must" for their supply of fruit. Thank goodness Bessie and Annie liked it, despite the heat, mosquitoes, and continual crouch that goes with it. Many happy hours were spent in the strawberry, raspberry and blueberry patches.

Their Christmases were very happy and gay. They would walk the C.N. trestle to Entwistle and ride to

Magnolia with the Tufty family in a cutter and a team of fast racehorses with bells on the harness. If the team stepped out, the trip home would take twenty minutes. They went to William Andersons who always had a large number of guests. The laden table extended from one side of the room to the other. Three sittings were very common and the young girls learned to wash dishes, set tables etc., as it was part of the fun.

Following the meal there were songs, music, recitations and dancing. Harry's contribution was singing "The Little Shirt my Mother Made for Me" and "The Preacher and the Bear." Children learned to dance at these gatherings with their parents. The Greaves children spent many happy holidays at the Anderson's farm.

The Evansburg United Church had a large Sunday school and both Tom and Annie attended from the age of six until they left home to continue their education. Many happy hours were spent there. The Christmas concerts found everyone taking part and performing to a packed house.

The children were also in the sports area. Annie played basketball and softball. Tom played baseball and hockey. Both Harry and Bessie believed in recreation and church for their family.

The children were very fortunate to spend their summers at the Pembina River learning to swim. As Bessie would get no more than her feet wet, Mrs. Jock Mitchell would take Annie swimming. Annie owes the fact that she can swim to her. She was a very close friend of Bessie's and she attended Bessie when she gave birth to all her children. She was a very wonderful person.

Harry and Bessie were Charter Members of the Canadian Legion and the Auxiliary. They enjoyed working for the Legion and on community projects, especially any project that would help the children and teenagers.

Bessie was a member of the Anglican Church Woman's Auxiliary. She served two terms on the Village Council. She hardly ever missed a School

Board meeting, or any meeting to do with the village. Bessie was very outspoken and honest, and everyone knew her views.

Annie (Mrs. Blake Tucker) went to Edmonton to take a course in stenography. She now lives in Evansburg. They have three children, Edward, Harry and Beth Anne.

When Tom returned from the war (1945), he attended the University of Alberta and graduated in Electrical Engineering. He and his wife, Beryl, have three children, Brenda, Brian and Fred, and live in Edmonton.

Fred also graduated from the U. of A. as a Petroleum Engineer. He is married to Aline. They have four children, Susan, Linda, Bob and Tom. They live in Calgary.

Harry died in 1966 at the age of seventy-two and Bessie followed in 1974 at the age of seventy-eight. They are buried in the Evansburg Cemetery and rest side by side in the village they loved so well.

Early Evansburg

from Bob Marshall's Tape

"My father, Jack Marshall, settled in the Evansburg area in, I believe, 1915. I, Bob Marshall, and two brothers and a sister came to Evansburg in 1917. My dad was already living on the homestead at that time, so we moved right on out there. We came on the old Grand Trunk Railroad. The train stopped at the old Arnup's Crossing, where a box car was set off the track for a station. We were met there by Mrs. MacDiarmid and her son, John, with a team and wagon. They took us out to their place, where we spent the night. We went out to Dad's homestead the next morning. Dad had a small log house and a small log barn and that was about all.

At that time Evansburg was a fairly good town. The mine was working pretty steady, and there were a lot of people there. There were thirty company houses, twenty-four in the lower end of town, and



Jack Stokes, Charlie Marshall, Bob Mitchell, Sarah Mullen, Gladys Young, Annie Mullen.

six up at the far end. Three of the six were just across from the mine. They were occupied by the doctor, the hoisting engineer and one of the cutting machine operators. They were Dr. Elliott, Bill Doucette and Bill Barwise. On the other side there were three big houses built for the manager, the pit boss and the master mechanic. In those days Jack MacLeod was the manager, Pete Melling, the pit boss and Mr. Markel, the master mechanic.

The only grocery store I can remember was the Elsie Bruce Company store, in a log building on the east side of the old dump pile. A log dance hall was also located there. Down town there was the post office and confectionery, run by Bill Geach. Then, of course, there was the hotel. It wasn't licensed to sell liquor, but it was a place to sleep and eat, for the single men who worked in the coal mine. The hotel was just a little bit south of the present one. There used to be a creek running through there (you can still see traces of it), and the hotel was on the south side of the creek.

There could have been more than two hundred people in the town then, as there was quite a crew working in the mine. The mines were working better then, and through the twenties, than they did in the thirties.

There has pretty well always been a resident doctor in Evansburg. There was a while, after the mine closed, when Doctor Chisholm lived at Sangudo, but he used to come to Evansburg every so often.

We had a very good hockey and baseball team in the town. All it took to get a good job in the mine was to be a good hockey or ball player. Labour Day was always the big sports day in Evansburg. There would be a ball tournament. Some played football - soccer, you know, not the rough stuff they play now. There is a cup at the museum, that was found in Wolff's store, that was won by a football team in 1920, I think. They must have had a good football team then. I believe the cup was donated by an M.L.A., but no names are inscribed on it. I had an uncle and an older brother that played football for Evansburg.

As for entertainment - there has nearly always been a skating rink in Evansburg. There was also the odd picture show - silent movies that came through on a travelling deal. There were also dances and whatever. They could always scare up a little music if somebody wanted to dance.

I didn't start to work underground in the mine until 1925. Prior to that I didn't know many of the old time miners, but after I started working underground I soon got to know everybody. Before I started working, I got to know Bill Barwise when he came back from overseas in 1919. I also knew Billy Dunn, and of course the Mitchells, from their kids going to school. I was slightly acquainted with the Embrees before I started working. At first they lived in the townsite, and when he became pit boss they moved into one of the three big houses. Some others I knew very well were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Greaves. I remember them from when I was a kid, because he played baseball and we never missed a game, and knew all the players. Mrs. Greaves was always out there hollering for him.

The first postmaster I remember was an English fellow named Bill Geach. After him Elsie took over, and then Tom Bell.



Evansburg Mine. Office, tipple and wash house.



Bill Langer and Woodrow Conley in old skating rink.



Old NAC - switch engine used at Evansburg mine, had once been a GTP passenger engine and was one of the first engines to come west on GTP Railroad. It was used for scrap during World War II.

I knew the Wrights, but not too well. I knew some of the daughters after they were married. Two of them married Hadleys - Ray Hadley and Bill Hadley. They lived in the townsite. Si Bell married the youngest Wright girl.

There were quite a lot of Japanese miners. I remember the Kitiguchis. Their two oldest boys started school when it first opened. They couldn't speak a word of English, which led to some very

amusing incidents. We had an old teacher, Pat Sullivan was his name - a real old Irishman - and he used to get so furious with those kids that they would run around and squeal. He'd holler at them and tell them to sit down, but they didn't know what he was talking about. He looked as though he would have liked to choke a few of them.

Another Japanese man was Yonimura - quite a photographer. He took a lot of pictures. Then there was Suzuki, a real old gentleman. He used to invite us up to his cabin where he lived alone. He cooked Japanese food for us - fish, chicken and stuff like that. He was a marvelous cook. Another one was Masadori, a kind of sour old bird. Nobody thought much of him. When he wasn't working in the mine, he spent all his time drinking beer or playing poker, or both. Timiashi, who stayed with Yonimura for quite some time, was a photographer, too. He had a record player, and was very fond of opera music. He had all the fancy records. We didn't think much of them but he thought they were all right. There were quite a few more Japanese, but their names escape me. There must have been a dozen or more at the time. They were probably coal miners in Japan before coming to Canada.

The school was in the process of being built when we came in the winter of 1917 - 18. I am sure it opened in the spring of 1918 - a little two room school that had a bell tower on it. My younger brother, Charlie, and I started school in the spring of 1918. They didn't have high school until 1923, and then some kids came from Entwistle to attend high school. Mr. Sullivan taught grades five to eleven. For grade twelve, some went to Stony Plain. The pit boss, Mr. Melling, had four sons. The eldest, Joe, worked as a fire boss in the mine. The others were Pete, Tom and Jack. Jack and I were in the same grade at school, and Tom was maybe two or three grades ahead of us. All three of these boys went to grade eleven in Evansburg, and at least one finished his high school there. All three became doctors afterwards.

I didn't know about any cemetery in Evansburg when we first came. The nearest one was the old

Entwistle Cemetery along the Pembina south of Entwistle. The nearest one of any size was at Spruce Grove.

The country surrounding Evansburg was pretty well settled when we came. You wouldn't call them farms - they were just homesteads. All the land immediately north was mine company land, and there was nobody on it until the thirties, when some of it was sold to homesteaders. I don't know exactly how far north the company land extended. My first memory of that northern area was John Bjornstad's place and his brother's place. Others close by were Blasius and Winteler. Togweiller is another one I was trying to think of. When I knew Blasius, he lived in town. He was the master mechanic at the mine for some years, too. Old Mike - I went to school with his boys, too. Gee! I haven't thought about him for years and years.

Out where we lived the homesteads were pretty well all taken. Rheins were out there, the two Broughtons, my dad and the MacDiarmaids. MacDiarmaids had a big block of land. Mazeppas, of course, were there long before us.

The railroads were both completed and in operation when I got to Evansburg. There were places where they ran side by side, and even one place west a little ways where they had a diamond switch and crossed one-another. About three years after we came the Canadian Northern was dismantled. They took out sections of it, and used part of each roadbed to make the Trans-Canada Highway. Where the railroad is now was the Grand Trunk. The Canadian Northern went right through my yard. When they combined, they just used parts of each one to make the railroad as it is now.

They started sinking the mine shaft quite early, in about 1913 or something like that. It took a couple of years to sink the shaft. The mine was in full operation when we came. My dad had already been working there for a couple of years. My older brother started right away to work in the mine as soon as we came. He and Dad travelled back and forth from the homestead to work. I didn't start

until 1925. I worked there for eleven years, until they shut the mine down in 1936. During that time I got to know all these old timers: - Jock Mitchell, my machine operator; Mert Embree, the pit boss in my time; Harry Greaves, a machine operator; Albert Hodgkinson, who came in 1925 and was the day shift fire boss; Gunner Anderson, the night shift fire boss; Bill Strickland and Billy Dunn, machine operators; and Henry Christiansen, with whom I worked underground for a long time. Henry and I loaded coal together for quite a few years. Then there was "Big Mike" Maruska (he's still around the country), who was our track layer. There was another track layer named Mike Ores, and still another small chap named Mike (I can't recall his last name). There were "Big Mike", "Little Mike" and "Half-Pint Mike". The latter was a very kind man. I got well acquainted with all the Japs, too. I worked with Suzuki and old Tom Kitiguchi quite a lot, and also with Aashi. Another old timer with whom I worked was Karl Langer, Emil's dad. I worked quite a few days with him.

The coal from the Evansburg mine was strictly a good grade of domestic coal, not too good for other purposes. It was a dandy mine, the best one for conditions that I ever worked in. It was dry and had a good roof - a real good mine. My dad and I were the last ones to come out from the far end of it. We went in and made a survey after they were finished taking the stuff out. I don't know if anybody went back in there after us or not. This was in the spring of 1936, when my dad was doing the surveying. He worked as a miner for many years until in 1931, I believe it was, when he took over as manager. He held this position for three years. After he left, he still used to come back and do the surveying. You have probably seen his maps in the Evansburg museum.

Other managers were Jack MacLeod, the first one I think. Then a chap by the name of Howden took over. My dad was next. Then in the thirties, when things got really bad the last couple of years, Mert Embree ran it himself.

When the mine shut down it was not because

they had run out of coal. We had just opened up a new district that was supposed to handle output for fifteen years. We worked in this district for only a year or two, so there was loads of coal. However the mine was getting in bad shape. The air wasn't coming through, the power was too far away from the coal face, and of course the market was damn poor, too. We didn't even work one hundred days a year. It was pretty slim pickings in the thirties around that mine.

The first store in Evansburg was the Elsie Bruce Company store. Then Mr. Elsie sold out his share to Mr. Macphee, and it became the Bruce-Macphee store for quite a few years. Then Mr. Bruce sold out to Mr. Macphee. Mr. Macphee's name was not even mentioned in the first place, but he ended up with it all.

There were just two townsites. The one down where Reitzers now live was called the "Old Townsite." I believe there were five houses there. The Langers lived in the very house that the Reitzers live in now. I believe most of their kids were born right down there. That is the only family that I can remember living at the townsite at the time, but later on there were more people living there. We had an aunt and uncle who came from England about 1919 or 1920, and they lived down there for quite some time, until they could get a house up town.

There were three streets of eight houses each - twenty-four houses - in the main townsite. Then, farther up, there were the six company houses. Besides that there were a lot of cabins which were built by miners coming in and by homesteaders, too, who came in to work at the mine during the winter. The homesteaders used to batch in these little cabins, and then go back to their homesteads in the summer when the mine was shut down.

Arnupville was always there as far as I can remember. I knew Mr. Arnup quite well. He was clerk at the old municipal office there. Later Mr. Bill Keen took over the job. There were just a few homes scattered back in the bush there. Arnupville was just on this side of where the grave yard is now.

I think the highway cut portions of it off.

I don't believe there were any churches in Evansburg when we came. I think the old English Church and the United Church were built some time after we came. They both have been there a long time. The only church that I can remember was the Roman Catholic Church at Entwistle. It was built in those years. It was there over fifty or sixty years. Father Sullivan, who came in the early thirties, was the first resident priest there. Other priests before him came and held services, but did not stay there.

The Alberta Provincial Police came to Evansburg in the twenties. Two I remember were a big stout fellow by the name of Jack Burton and Shelton. The Mounties were Haye and Rogan. I'll never forget old Paddy Rogan. He was quite a character. Before the police came there was no police protection unless they were called in for some reason. For a while the barracks were closed in Evansburg, and the police were stationed in Entwistle. Then they moved back to Evansburg, where they have been ever since."

The foregoing is quoted from a tape made by Bob Marshall in 1972.

Bob married Helen Hallett from Wildwood. They had two daughters, Judy and Lynn.

In later years they moved to B.C. where Bob passed away.

Helen still lives in Victoria, B.C.

William Doucette

by Eva (Doucette) Bachynski

My father came to Canada in the early 1900s with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Augustin Doucette from Marquette, Michigan, U.S.A. and settled in Entwistle, Alberta. Dad was one of nine children.

Not long after his arrival in Entwistle, he found work in a lumber mill west of Junkins. In 1920 he married Kathleen Stirton, daughter of John and

Mary Stirton of Entwistle. In 1921 they moved to Evansburg where Dad was employed by the Pembina Coal Company. After studying and receiving his engineer's certificate he was employed as hoist engineer by the same company.

We lived beside the slag pile, the dump, as we called it and many a night when the wind would blow, we would take turns watching to see no fires would break out. Our neighbors were Dr. Chisholm on one side and William Strickland on the other.

My father was troubled with arthritis. I can remember Frank and Tom Purcell coming and taking him to work with a team of horses and a sleigh and bringing him home at night.

In 1930 when the mine was slack and only worked during the winter months, Dad started his own blacksmith shop. We enjoyed turning the hand-turned forge for him. He sharpened many a plow share and shod many a horse. His shop was located next to the Mitchell store.

We spent many happy years in Evansburg. I can remember some of the highlights such as the Sunday picnics at Seba Beach when the weather was good. The roads were impassable during the rains. I remember the pilgrimage we attended at Lac Ste. Anne, and fishing trips to Chip Lake and Carrot Creek.

I remember the mine all but closed in 1935. We moved to the Macphee house in Entwistle and walked the high level bridge to school every day.

After the mine closed for good, there was no more electricity or running water, so it was back to coal oil lamps and wells.

In April of 1936, Dad moved to Drumheller, as the Pembina Coal Company had closed down. He was employed by the company called the Western Monarch. The rest of the family moved in June of the same year as soon as school was out.

Dad passed away April 10, 1963 at the age of

seventy-eight and Mother passed away on November 12, 1975 at the age of seventy-three.

Marie married John Delano. They lived in Drumheller and had two sons. Marie is now a widow.

Eva married Anton Bachynski. They reside in Drumheller and have one daughter and one son.

Helen married Guy Read. They lived at Ponoka, Alberta. They had three sons and one daughter. Helen is now a widow.

Bill married Irene Morrow. They reside in Drumheller. Bill is superintendent of Alberta Power Ltd. He is serving his second term as mayor of Drumheller. They have two daughters and two sons.

Jack married Beverley Carter of Calgary. They reside in Red Deer, Alberta. Jack is employed by the Alberta Highway Patrol. They have two daughters.

Bernie married Donna Lewis of Wayne, Alberta. He was killed in a mine accident on August 8, 1955 at the age of twenty years. They had one daughter.

Bunny married Dan Cozac of North Bay, Ontario. They reside in Brooks, Alberta. They have two daughters and two sons.

Bernice married Irvin Hubick of Earl Grey, Saskatchewan. They reside in Grande Prairie, Alberta. They have three daughters.

Ray Melvin Family

by Art Melvin

Ray Tiffin Melvin came to Evansburg in 1917 with his wife and two small children. He came to play hockey for the Evansburg team. He worked as a locomotive engineer at the coal mine and operated a barber shop and pool hall.

Ray came to Canada by oxcart and covered



Flo Melvin with Blanche and her son.

wagon from Nebraska, U.S.A. with a caravan of people whose aim was to join the Klondike gold rush. The family only went as far as Lacombe where they homesteaded. Ray's father, Lewis "Doc" worked on the construction of the C.P.R. which was pushing its way east to Stettler. Ray drove team for a livery company in Lacombe. It was there he met and married Florence Jane Gilbert.

Flo had immigrated to Lacombe from her native Plymouth, England, after responding to a labor recruitment ad which was part of a concerted effort to get people to come to Canada to live. She worked in the Adelphia Hotel in Lacombe where Ray made deliveries. After marrying, they lived for a short time in Kerrobert, Saskatchewan before moving to Evansburg.

Grand Trunk High School is built on the Melvin property where Ray pastured his Jersey dairy herd and his groomed and decorated team of Percheron horses. The tall spruce trees in the front of the school were planted by the family along the driveway to the house. The house, which was moved to make way for the school, is presently owned by Beschell.

Ray was joined in Evansburg by his brother, George with wife Inez, and their family who lived in Evansburg a number of years before moving to B.C. George and Inez are both deceased -- Inez just passed away in 1981 at eighty-five. Their son, Fred, died by drowning after returning from overseas. Clifford also served in the armed forces. Iva and Blanche and Cliff live in B.C.

Ray and Flo lived to celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1963, but Flo died later in the year. Ray died several years later, after suffering a stroke. He was eighty-four. They are buried in Westlawn Cemetery in Edmonton. Their son, Harry, is also buried there in the Military section. Their three sons were all members of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Violet, Elsie and Norman live in Edmonton, and Arthur is retired and lives in Hinton.

William John Barwise

by Bud Macphee

William John Barwise was an American citizen from Chicago, Illinois, who immigrated to Edmonton at or around 1912. He was a tinsmith by trade and he worked at this trade in and around Edmonton. He was at one time employed on the construction of the MacDonald Hotel. He helped to install the copper roofing on the original hotel. When the mine was established at Evansburg he was employed there at this trade.

He enlisted at the outbreak of the Great War with a regiment based in Calgary. He was engaged in the battles at Passchendale and the Somme. I can recall one of the few times he mentioned his war service, of how he was the lone survivor of a direct shell hit on a dugout that he was in. He was later badly gassed and was partially blinded. As a result he was invalided back to England. He became what was then called a musketry instructor and continued in that capacity until his return to Canada and discharge. He resumed his job at the coal mine and later established a garage and service station. He also operated the only motion picture show at



Barwise garage.

Evansburg and movies were shown every Saturday night.

Bill Barwise was a man of many talents. There were few things of a mechanical nature that he did not understand. He was on a constant call repairing everything from stalled cars to leaky roofs. He was not an individual who was too concerned about the monetary return covering such repair work and most of the time the people he did the work for, would have to pressure him until he would state a price for the work performed.

I can best recall Bill Barwise for the numerous fishing trips he took me on, and how he showed me the ins and outs of fishing, especially for trout. I often accompanied him on fishing expeditions up to Cold Creek, Carrot Creek, January Creek and Trout Creek. On one trip into Trout Creek, we had to cross the McLeod River near Peers on the ferry and then proceeded over a trail in a northerly direction up through a stretch of flat land called Jock's Meadows. This whole area was covered with swamp hay that stood in some places over five feet high. There were a few settlers in there, all of whom lived off the land, in the prime sense. Trout Creek was noted for its rainbow trout but even then in the early 1930's it was pretty badly fished out. There were two forks to this small creek, named the North and South Forks, which came together slightly north of Jock's Meadows to form Trout Creek. On one occasion Bill and I were up on the North Fork which was badly covered over with deadfall. Bill noticed this one large fish, partially obscured by deadfall and it was not possible to see a clear outline of this supposed trout. Bill tried every trout fly in his book and included the casing off a .22

shell as well as some raisins he happened to have in his pocket. Nothing Bill attempted would encourage this denizen to take the bait. Finally Bill in desperation, reached in and poked the fish with the end of his fishing rod. Out swam a two foot sucker. Just how a fish of this nature would be in waters as cold and turbulent as Trout Creek was beyond our comprehension and we retired in disgust to the camp site to discuss the vicissitudes of trout fishing.

Another instance I can recall of Bill Barwise, occurred when my maternal grandmother passed away in December, 1921, just a few days before Christmas. My mother made preparations to leave for Ontario and we three children were to accompany her. Our Christmas tree had already been set up and decorated and as time was of the essence and the tree was more or less a fire hazard, Bill simply took it, decorations and all and threw it outside. The following Christmas he showed up at our house with a freshly cut young spruce tree and boxes of all new decorations. He never mentioned anything but simply brought them into our home and proceeded to set up the tree and decorate it.

There is much more that could be written about Bill Barwise and many other tales to tell, but all would only go back to the basic nature of the man himself. He was a person of simple tastes and the matter of personal aggrandizement never did occur to him. In his own way he left his mark and he well deserves a niche in the history of the area in which he labored and lived for so many years.

John & Alice Greaves

by Annie Tucker

John Greaves was a twenty-one year old British soldier. He served in India and in the Boer War in Africa. While there he became Middle Weight Boxing Champion.

He served in the First World War and met his wife, Alice, while on leave. Their only daughter, May was born November 10, 1918. They came to

Canada in 1920, and lived in Evansburg where he worked at the mine until it closed. He then worked in Jasper Park during the summer and at a local mine at Manola in the winter. During the war he worked at the Drumheller mines until 1948, when he died in Calgary from cancer.

His wife, Alice, stayed at home in Entwistle while he was away. In 1942, she too died from cancer.

John Greaves was always pressed into service during Halloween nights. As there were lots of pranks played in Evansburg, he was very busy that night. His nephews and nieces stayed home on Halloween.



Jack and Alice Greaves

Walter Smillie

by Ruth Branchflower

Walter and John Smillie came to Evansburg to work in the town's coal mine during the 1920's. Walter Smillie was born at Coatbridge, Scotland in 1901. After attending school there he worked in the Scottish coal mines. The 1921 British General Strike, which lasted more than a year, created an unemployment situation which caused him and his brother, John, who was two years younger, to immigrate to Canada. Walter arrived in Canada in 1924. He first worked on the Great Lakes in the shipping industry for a year and a half. He then

went to Prince Rupert, where he worked in a warehouse, making up orders for the north. After a few months there, he moved to Evansburg, where he worked in the mine, earning money to pay for his brother John's passage from Scotland.

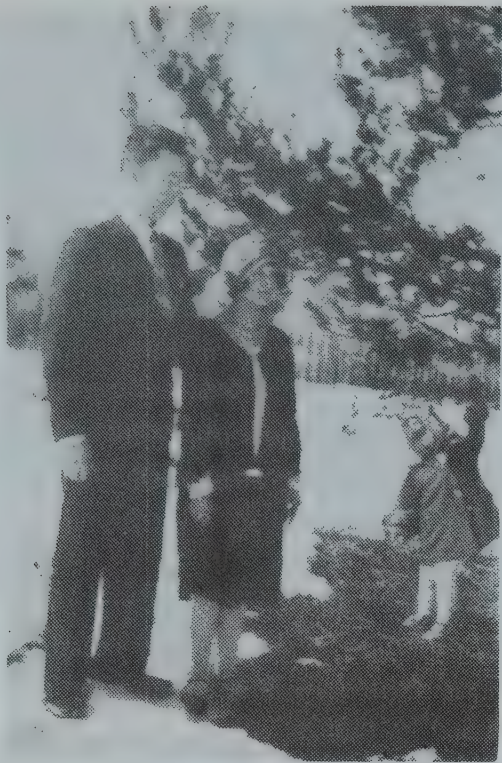
The two lived in the old Evansburg townsite and "batched" together until Walter was married in December, 1930 to Liesel Laschinsky, who had come to Evansburg in 1922 from Germany. Walter and Liesel moved into a house near the mine site to set up housekeeping. They found their new home already occupied by other residents; a thriving colony of bedbugs! It was quite a shock for a young bride who had not previously had any acquaintance with the bedbug "race". On the advice of neighbors, they used coal-oil to rout the unwanted tenants. Walter and John helped to build the home in which Liesel's parents lived on the property on the Lobstick.

When mine operations began slowing down, John Smillie left for Drinnan, near Hinton, to work in the mine there. Walter and Liesel followed later. Their daughter, Ruth, was born in Evansburg in 1931.

In the years which followed, the family lived in Canmore, Alexo, Edmonton and Foothills, where Walter worked in various mines, becoming 'pit boss' at the Foothills mine. In the early 1950's they left the Coal Branch and returned to live in Evansburg, where they built a home on the portion of the land left to them by Paul Laschinsky.

Walter worked in the Macphee store for several years, then the couple operated a store of their own, which was located across from the old mine office on the road to the CN station. The store was purchased from another pioneer Evansburg family, the Muldoons. They operated the store until 1973, when they moved to Kamloops, B.C. An old mine injury which had been causing problems led to the need to be closer to family and medical assistance.

During her entire lifetime, Liesel Smillie has maintained her interest in music, giving piano and



Mr. and Mrs. Smillie.

violin lessons, and to the present day (1982) finds enjoyment in teaching a small number of students.

Their daughter Ruth graduated from high school while the family was living in Edmonton, and attended the University of Alberta Faculty of Education. She taught elementary school in Edson, where she met Cliff Branchflower, to whom she was married in Evansburg in 1955. After living for a few months in Kitimat, B.C., Ruth and her husband moved to Kamloops, where they still reside. After leaving teaching, Ruth took up her musical studies, which had been begun by her mother, and eventually obtained her A.R.C.T. degree from the Royal Conservatory, Toronto. She teaches private piano lessons as well as serving as church organist. Her husband works for the Kamloops daily newspaper. He spent fifteen years as a trustee of the Kamloops School District before being elected an Alderman of the City of Kamloops in December, 1980. The couple have a son, Walter, born in 1964; and a daughter, Alison, born in 1969. Both children are active in sports and musical activities.

John Smillie

by Ruth Branchflower

John worked in various coal mines throughout

Alberta, including Drumheller and Coleman, as well as mines in the Edmonton area, before becoming an employee of the City of Edmonton Utilities Department for a number of years prior to his retirement.

He was married during the 1940's and has one daughter, Agnes, now married to Andy Baird, an employee of the City of Edmonton. They have two daughters, Rayona and Roxanne, and live in the south side of Edmonton. John and his wife continue to reside in the Forest Heights area, where they have been for many years.

The Prescott Forbes Family

Prescott and Alvira Forbes came to Evansburg around 1920. They were both originally from Prince Edward Island, where their families had farmed near Summerside for generations.

Prescott had come west first on a Harvest Excursion in 1912 and had found the prairie air beneficial to his health and so decided to stay. He worked in and around Edmonton until he joined the army in 1915. He proceeded to France with the Fourth Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force where he served at the 'front'. On being wounded in action twice, Forbes was given a medical discharge in 1917. He returned to his home in the east and following his recuperation he came to Edmonton where he took a job with a mining company. He was sent first to Coalhurst, Alberta and shortly thereafter on September 16, 1918, he and Alvira MacLean were married.

Alvira MacLean was no stranger to the west for she had come to Alberta before the War to teach for a year at Ohaton near Camrose. It was not long after their marriage that the couple were transferred to Nacmine, Alberta and a year or so later saw them posted to Evansburg where they were to remain for sixteen years.

Their first home was a company house directly across from the old Evansburg Hotel. It was in this house that their sons John Allison and James Wendell were born in 1922 and 1923 respectively. In that house their neighbors on the east were the Kitaguchi family.

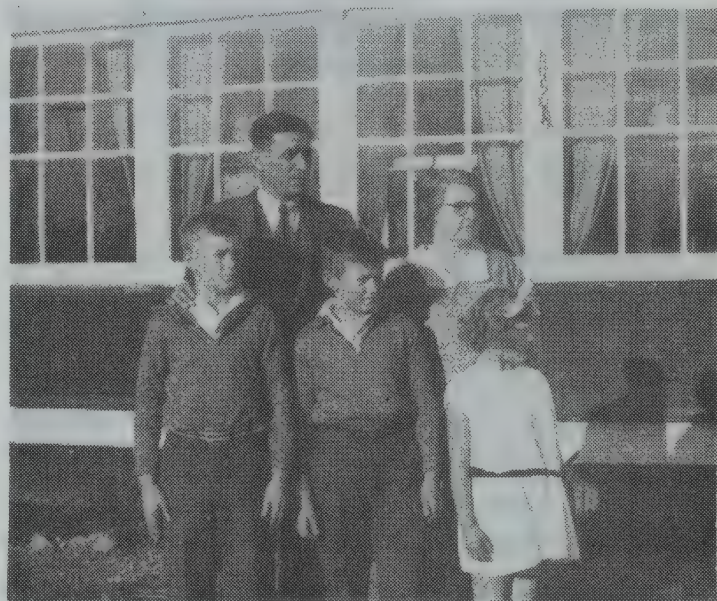
The Forbes later moved to a house adjacent to the school yard and sports field. It was there that the couple's daughter, Margaret Elaine, was born. The neighbors on this street were the Hamiltons to the west and the Narraways to the east. Later the Purcells became neighbors when the Narraways moved to Edmonton. The final move for the Forbes came in 1931 when they purchased a house that had been owned by a Mr. C. B. Atkins, a surveyor. This house was at the south-east corner of the town adjacent to the old Edmonton-Jasper Highway. Unlike most of the company houses this residence still stands and is presently owned by Mike Borys.

This part of town was sparsely settled at that time and there was still a great deal of bush in the neighborhood. But there was a row of three large company houses for some of the mine officials. The most southerly one was the Mine Manager's house and it was occupied first by the Howdens and later by the Marshalls. Next was the house of the Pit Boss in which Mr. Mert Embree and family lived and finally came the house of the Fire Boss where the Hodgkinsons lived. Across the road from the Hodgkinsons, to the east, was the home of Fred Elsie and family. Fred was one of the pioneer merchants in the district and later the proprietor of the Evansburg Hotel. Later Charlie Macphee co-owner of Bruce and Macphee's General Store bought the house, and lived there for many years.

The Forbes were active in community affairs. The parents were closely involved with the United Church from the beginning and both served in various capacities over the years. The boys were active in



Prescott and Alvira Forbes 1955.



**The Forbes Family
(L—R) Mr. Forbes, Mrs. Forbes, Allison, Wendell, and Elaine.**

the Wolf Cub pack led by Bob Gillard (now of Willimantic, Connecticut), which met in the old Scout Hall on the main street. Summer Camps were held at a site on the Lobstick River. There was little in the way of organized sport except for the field days on May 24th and July 1st but the children of the town were well-occupied - at least most the time. One group of youngsters, entirely on their own organized a regular baseball 'league' composed of two teams: Entwistle and Evansburg. On Saturday morning they would play, alternating the home

games, and transportation was always provided by 'shanks mare' via the railway bridge.

In winter life was even more exciting with lots of good hills for sleighing and ponds and creeks and, later a real rink, for skating and hockey. The Forbes boys recall with pleasure the times that Mr. and Mrs. Henry Christensen took them out on cross-country skiing jaunts. All in all the family agreed it was an ideal place to grow up.

It came as shock to the family when in 1936 they learned they would be leaving Evansburg for Drumheller where the company was opening a new mine. The trauma of the move was lessened by the knowledge that many of their friends and acquaintances were also going there - the Steeles, the Doucettes, the Purcells, the Embrees and the Earlys, to name a few - but the Forbes children were leaving the only home they had known and were going to miss the good friends they were leaving behind. Misfortunes, however, like blessings, are often mixed and in time they accepted their new environment and gradually became a part of it.

Prescott Forbes died in Drumheller in 1958 at the age of seventy. He had served his company for over forty years in many places and in many capacities, but for him the Evansburg years were the best. His wife Alvira, too, had pleasant memories of those years. She died in Medicine Hat in 1975 at the age of eighty-eight.

As for the Forbes offspring, all born in Evansburg, they ended up in various places. Elaine worked for a time after her graduation at the Registrar's Office at the University of Alberta. She is married to James Pritchard, a lawyer, in Medicine Hat where she teaches at the Medicine Hat Community College. They have raised four children, three boys and a girl.



Elaine (Forbes) Pritchard

Wendell served in aircrew with the R.C.A.F. during World War II. In 1948 after graduation from U.B.C. he was hired by Time Incorporated and moved to New York. He became Circulation Director of Life magazine and after twenty-two years with that corporation he started his own consulting firm. He lives in Connecticut now with his wife Carolyn Irvine and has two children a girl and a boy.

Allison served as a pilot in the R.C.A.F. in the European Theatre and after the war took a teaching position at the University of Alberta, where he is a professor of art. He is married to Shirley McPhail and they have three sons.

The Sylvester Family

Compiled by Rich Sylvester to the best of his knowledge

Richard Amos Sylvester was born May 22, 1862. He was raised in Green County, Wisconsin. When he grew up to be a teenager, the wanderlust took over and he worked his way westward up through the Dakotas to Montana. From there he went to Idaho and finally to the State of Washington. I believe he was married the first time in Montana and from that marriage there were four children - two girls and two boys, Dad Sylvester had the wanderlust as he was a gold placer miner and was always looking for the Mother Lode, so with all the

wandering around, the marriage broke up and they were divorced. The mother raised the children. Dad kept up the gold mining. He took out a homestead north of Colville, Washington, sometime in the late 1880s or early 90s. That place was owned by my half brother Orlie until his death in July, 1977.

My dad, Richard Amos, met my mother, Florence Allen, in Elk City, Idaho around 1908 or 1909. They married and shortly afterward immigrated to Canada. They moved up to Edmonton but not before Irene was born. Dad filed on a homestead west of Edmonton which turned out to be about five miles west of Gunn or three and a half miles east of Glenevis, Alberta.

Times were tough and we were barely getting along on the homestead with children coming along about every sixteen or eighteen months. First was Irene, then Spencer on February 16, 1913, I, Richard Orville was born October 19, 1916, and then Ernest a couple of years later.

Dad saw he couldn't make a go of it at Gunn so he made a trip to Evansburg to look things over. He found out the Evansburg mine was going full blast and they didn't have anyone to do the dray work in the town. So in the summer of 1921, - I believe it was August, - we packed up our belongings and loaded them in a wagon just like the old pioneers and proceeded to move to Evansburg. There was one team of horses with a wagon load of our belongings plus the milk cow tied on the back of the wagon. I think it took us four days to make the trip, which was approximately forty miles. When we arrived in Evansburg, Dad was able to get a house and lot so we were settled in very quickly. We were able to get all the dray work for the town, plus hauling the coal for the families. Dad also was a shoe cobbler by trade so he repaired shoes. He also took out a contract with the Government to carry the mail from the train to the Post Office. That lasted more than seven years. Shortly after moving to Evansburg, the family started to increase again. Grace was born around 1923, then Eva in 1925, Stanley next, then Lawrence and finally Marion, nick-named Mae.



Buster Sylvester

The town was going full blast in coal production during the 1920s. There were around six hundred people living in Evansburg at the time of the boom and it kept up fairly well until the Depression of 1929. Then things dropped off to nothing. Dad took sick in the summer of 1930 and he got so he sat in a rocking chair for almost two years. He passed away in May 1932 at the age of seventy years. He was buried in Edmonton. By 1933 the mine was pretty well closed down. When Dad died, Spencer and I had to take over what was left of the business which wasn't very much. The Depression was in full swing and it got so bad a person couldn't get a job for love nor money. Mother was left with seven children to look after and was only getting a widow's allowance of thirty dollars per month. I forgot to mention, Spencer only had about three percent vision due to cataracts, so I, more or less had to be the big chief for the gang. We, Spencer and I, used to take the saddle horses in the summer and go off south and hunt big game to try to keep food on the table. It seemed I was always looking for meat for the family. The hard times were with us from 1929 through to 1939. When the war broke out, things picked up.

During the years of the Depression, there was lots of time for sports, hunting, picnics and going to

dances. Charlie Daniel and family owned the Pembina Hotel in Entwistle. He was a really nice fellow. He decided to make up a baseball team. I played ball for his team for four or five seasons. We had a pretty good team and I believe we won two cups one season. We played against Edson, Mackay, Wildwood, Mayerthorpe and one or two teams from around Edmonton, including Stony Plain. The Ball Club members were as follows, Darold Daniel - catcher, Ivan Boles - pitcher, Norman Hanson - first base, Jack Balfour - second base, Rich Sylvester - third base, Lawrence Anderson - short stop, Carl Anderson - center field, Eric Anderson - left field, Bud Storms - right field, Ray Storms and Carl Anderson were spare pitchers.

The Dewalds had an orchestra - there was Henry Sr., and his wife Annie, daughter Irene, John Palkowski from Moon Lake and myself. Henry, Annie and young Henry played the violins. Irene played the piano. John and I played the drums. He would play a while and then I would take over. In that way, if one or the other couldn't make it for a dance, we were never stuck for a drummer. Most of the time we went to dances with a model A truck, but if the roads were too muddy, we would use a team of horses. Admission for the dances those days was twenty-five cents per person. That included supper at midnight. A four piece orchestra was getting paid about eight dollars a night. If you knew the right places to go, you could pick up a good bottle of moonshine for seventy five cents - a gallon jug for three dollars.



Richard Sylvester on cream route, 1942.



Grace, May and Eva Sylvester.

I had been working in the bush cutting logs and more or less kept at it until I was capable of running the bush work and sawing at the mills. Henry Dewald was running the grain elevator at Evansburg. I used to work with him and stayed at the Dewald home most of the time. In 1938, Henry's health started to fail from the grain dust, so he decided to quit the elevator job and go into the sawmill business. He got a timber berth south and west of Moon Lake on the Pembina River. In the fall of 1939, I went to work for him. I worked with Henry from 1939 to 1941.

In 1938 I met MaryLou Clark. She and her family had the store and post office at Styal. We started going together and continued until our marriage on October 10, 1942. We were married in Edmonton. MaryLou was working at the Alberta College and I was working in the bush for Julian Benson. After the wedding, MaryLou went back to the College and I back to the lumber camp. In a very short time I moved her out to the lumber camp with me for the winter. That was in November 1942. The temperature that winter was -65 for two weeks - day and night and two mornings -72. We lived in a little eight foot by sixteen foot lumber shack. I ran the edger on the mill. At that time wages had increased

considerably. I was making six dollars a day and believe you me, we thought we were going to live like kings.

In the spring of 1943, I moved MaryLou back to live with her parents, the Clarks, to wait for our first born. I went back to the bush at Benson's Camp. The mill was closed for the season but Don Edgar, Jerry McGregor and myself took a job cutting and skidding logs in the bush. Patricia was born May 20, 1943. On June 4, I had the misfortune to get hit with a tree. I smashed my left shoulder - also cut a large hole in my cheek. The foreman, Bill Gates, hauled me out to Wildwood with a team and stoneboat. MaryLou was home from the hospital with Pat. When she saw me with a sling on my arm and my face bandaged, she almost fainted. I was taped up till the 4th of October - then I had to get the arm working again. That didn't take too long. In the late fall of 1943, I went back to the bush and worked for Mr. Nero who had a mill south of Granada. I worked there for a month or two. Along toward spring, I decided to join the navy.

I joined the navy on May 9, 1944 and took basic training in Edmonton. I joined as a stoker, but there were so many stokers in the navy, I transferred to the Shore Patrol. As soon as the transfer was through, I was drafted to Halifax for advance training. While I was in Edmonton, we found a place to live on 144 Street on the west end of the city, so MaryLou and Pat were with me till I was drafted. By this time, MaryLou was pregnant with Lynne who was born while I was in Halifax. Lynne was born November 2, 1944 in Edmonton. But before that time, the Clarks decided to move MaryLou and Pat back out to Wildwood where they could look after her. I was able to get home on leave once or twice before the end of the war.

Just before Christmas 1944 I was on Patrol with three other patrolmen. We started to cross the street. It was quite dark at that intersection. I was in the lead and had just stepped out into the street when I was hit by a car. I received a broken ankle and was hospitalized for forty-five days. I got over that episode and continued patrolling till May 4, 1946 when I was discharged.



Spencer and Pearl Sylvester with baby.

I was able to get home to the family at Wildwood. Dad Clark was raising mink at Wildwood. He had a little house across the drive on which we built an addition and moved in. Rick was born in Edmonton March 23, 1947. I was brought into the mink business with Dad Clark and worked at that until the summer of 1951. The mink business was a flop, so I pelted out.

I took a job with the Imperial Lumber Company at Marlboro running the bush operations. We moved up there and I worked for Imperial in 1951 and 1952. We had a disagreement so we packed it up and moved into Edson. We lived in Edson and I worked at various jobs until 1955. We then bought in to the Commodore Cafe with Soren Madson and Bill Kaukwitt. I worked with MaryLou in the Cafe till the spring of 1961. Then I took a job with the Department of Highways and worked at that until the summer of 1973.

MaryLou kept running the cafe till the fall of 1962 when we sold to the owners of the hotel. In April of 1962, Lynn and Orley Thompson got married and had one daughter, Deborah. They divorced in 1970. Pat was married in July 1964 to Michael Tomeszewski. They have four children - Marnie, Steven, David and Katherine. Rick got

married in November 1969 to Linda Coats and they have two sons - Jamie and Aaron.

After we sold the cafe, we built a house on a half section of land which we had purchased out in the Pinedale District. We lived there until September, 1979 at which time we sold the place. At present we are living on an acreage on Wolf Creek south of Highway 16.

In the early forties, Florence Sylvester married Perle Muntz. They moved to Edmonton where they remained until Florence died in July, 1955.



Mr. and Mrs. Perle Muntz.

Of my brothers and sisters, the eldest, Irene died in Grapeview, Washington, as a young woman. Spencer was employed as custodian at the Edmonton Public Library until his retirement. He died in 1981. He had married Pearl Richards whose father had been the United Church minister in Evansburg in the late 1930s and perhaps the early 1940s. They had three children.

Ernest died at fifteen years of age.

Grace married Sam Thachalk. They live in Edmonton and have four children.

Eva married Mike Petriphyn during the war while he was in the airforce. They had one son. That marriage ended in divorce. Eva continues to live in Edmonton.

Stanley died in infancy and is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

Lawrence and his wife live in Edmonton where he works for the city. They have two children.

Mae married Peter Lefenko. They have two children and also continue to live in Edmonton.

The Muntz and Fred Nelson Families

In April 1921 William and Jane Muntz decided to leave their homestead in Vegreville to look for 'greener pastures'. Mr. Muntz who was then sixty-two years old, decided that living in a forest area similar to that of his native Cass City, Michigan home, would improve his health problems. He set out from Vegreville, taking his livestock and some personal belongings and boarded a train for Evansburg. A couple of weeks later Mrs. Muntz, together with her family, Perle, Eva, Orval, and Luella travelled by train to their newly acquired farm. This farm was located at S.W. 19-53-7 W5 through which the Foley trail wound its way after crossing the Pembina River at Keen's flat. This property was purchased from Steve Gore. Mr. Muntz's family of six lived in a two room log shack, twelve feet by sixteen feet for the first summer and through the winter. During this period Mr. Muntz was kept busy building a larger, two-story house. Mr. Muntz sawed the trees from his own land and hauled the logs to Guy Lamoureux's sawmill in the Reno area to be made into lumber. He hauled gravel with team and wagon from Keen's river flat for his cement basement. In the fall of 1922, the Muntz's moved into their new home.

After the pressure of building his home was over, Mr. Muntz, being a carpenter by trade, turned the little log shack into his carpenter's shop. He helped other pioneer families build their homes, barns and furniture. He also built and sold bob sleighs, made

from hand hewn logs, to local pioneers. He spent many hours scouting through his bush looking for special, naturally curved trees that he could use for the runners. He was also called upon to build caskets and tomb stones for local residents.

Perle and Orval had to remain at home to help their father clear trees so they could be self-sufficient on their farm. Luella attended school in the two-roomed school house in Evansburg for grades one to eight. Eva remained at home with her parents. At the age of eight she had a mishap with scissors while opening her mother's flour sack. This accident left her totally blind. It was about this time that Perle left home and later got married.

During the years of the depression, Luella recalls walking into Evansburg with a water pail full of eggs to be exchanged at Purin's store for some sugar which the family needed. Because of the great surplus of eggs already on hand at the store, Mr. Purin was unable to take in any more. Luella had to carry them all back home again. The family had to go without sugar for awhile longer.

In the latter part of the thirties, Orval took a homestead about four miles south of the home place and started up homesteading there. After he and his father had finished building a house and barn disaster struck. A forest fire went through the Reno country and burned their buildings to the ground, along with other settlers' buildings, and the Reno school and hall. Orval had to start from scratch again to build a house and barn. They still stand today on the farm which George Court now owns.

Orval's neighbours to the east along the river flat, Walter Cory and Fred Nelson, became good friends and worked together to clear their homesteads. The roads of that day were only rough trails. Fred broke a wheel on his wagon and Orval took him to his father's workshop to get the wagon repaired. Fred then became acquainted with the Muntz family and their home soon became a popular stopping off place when going into town.



Mr. and Mrs. Muntz and Eva.

As Fred used to quip, he and Walter Cory were tired of their own cooking and decided they needed a cook. They flipped a coin and Fred 'lost', so he set out to find himself a cook. He knew just where to go, as he had made good friends with the Muntz family. He soon started his courtship with Luella. They went to a few dances and box socials together at the newly built Reno hall. Not long before Luella was to get married in the spring of 1941, her mother passed away.

In November of 1941, Fred and Luella went to Edmonton where they located a Justice of the Peace and were married. After a short honeymoon to Vegreville, they returned to Fred's homestead to start their life together. For the first two years of their marriage, Fred and Luella lived in a small, ten foot by twelve foot house. Fred, along with some neighbours, started to build a larger house. By 1943 Fred had completed their new two-story home which gave them much more room to raise a family. They had three children born to them, one son, Ray, and two daughters, Vera and Frances.

When the time came for the children to attend school, Fred decided they had to move closer to the school in Evansburg. In 1951 they sold their half section homestead and new house and barn to Cliff Ross. The family moved into Evansburg and rented a small three room house from Anne Hutchinson for twenty dollars per month. Fred, then started working for Cliff Ross in his garage in Evansburg

which was located where Law's Service Centre is today. This job only lasted a short period of time. He then went to work for Bill Tuke on his dairy farm just north of town.

In 1954 Luella's father, William Muntz, passed away at the age of ninety-five.

After Luella left home and got married, Miss Maggie Cowan came to live at the Muntz home. She helped Eva and Mr. Muntz with the household chores and large garden. She lived with them for thirteen years before poor health forced her to go to a Salvation Army Nursing home in Edmonton.

In 1956, Eva came to live with Fred and Luella and family at their home in Evansburg. Also in 1956, Orval moved from the Muntz farm and bought a little house from Bill Bapty in Evansburg. At this time, Orval was employed by the Department of Highways. His job during the summer was mowing the grass along highway 16, from the Edmonton City Limits to the Jasper Park gates. He hitched his truck behind his tractor so that after working a twelve to fourteen hour shift, he had transportation to go find a bed for the night. In the winter Orval hauled cinders from the big cinder pile in the centre of Evansburg to the icy roads surrounding Evansburg. They did not have button sanding trucks like today. Two men had to ride in the truck box and use shovels to spread the cinders on the roads.

In 1957, the Nelsons moved from Evansburg back to the former William Muntz farm house. Fred kept on working at the Tuke dairy farm in addition to a little bit of farming at home to help meet expenses.

The Entwistle-Magnolia R.E.A. was formed in 1959, and that brought electricity to the Evansburg rural area. That was a great day. We now had electric lights and other neat appliances!

By the early sixties, heavy highway traffic warranted a wider bridge over the Pembina River and the highway had to be relocated. The new highway

location went through Fred Nelson's farm yard, forcing the removal of the forty year old spruce trees that had been hand planted by William Muntz on both sides of the driveway. Also the farm house had to be relocated to its present site approximately two hundred feet further south.

In May of 1962, Orval Muntz passed away, leaving to mourn his wife Cecile. Also in June of 1962, Fred Nelson was rushed to the hospital with a heart attack. This forced his early retirement from his regular job on the dairy farm.

Because of his father's illness, Ray decided to find local employment and help on the farm to support the family. He started working for the Department of Highways on the survey crew on August of 1963. Just a couple of months later the Government Yards were moved from their old location in Evansburg to a larger site on the north east corner of the Nelson farm. They are still located here today.

In the summer of 1965, after finishing high school, Vera started working as a telephone operator in Evansburg. Because dial telephones were soon to be introduced to the Evansburg area and local operators would no longer be needed, Vera started working at the Royal Bank in Evansburg in June of 1966.

After Frances completed high school, she went on to take four years training at the Prairie Bible Institute at Three Hills, Alberta. After her graduation, she went to Myrnam, Alberta, and worked with the Canadian Sunday School Mission in their Sunday School and Bible Clubs. She lived there for four years. It was while she was at Myrnam that she met Walter Wakulchyk. In September of 1975, she left the Mission work and married Walter. Frances and Walter presently live in Edmonton and have two children, one daughter, Jodie and one son, David.

After a lengthy illness and much time spent in and out of several hospitals, Fred Nelson passed away at his home in January of 1972.



(Back L—R) Ray Nelson, Fred Nelson, (Front L—R) Luella Nelson, Eva Muntz, Vera Nelson and Frances Nelson.

In 1979, Ray and Vera decided they would like to build a new house. In the summer of 1980 with the help of a friend of the family, Robert Koehn, construction started on the south-east part of the home quarter, just south of the Alberta Transportation yard. On Christmas eve of 1981, Ray and Vera, together with their mother and Aunt Eva, moved into their new home.

Presently Ray and Vera both work for Alberta Transportation, a five minute walk from their home. If they sleep in it's only a two or three minute run! Ray works as an instrument man on the survey crew and Vera as timekeeper of the maintenance department.

Chris Buzenius

by Jack Read

Chris Buzenius was born in Poland. He started school there when he was six years old. However, two years later, he had to quit school and go to work in a factory to help support the family. At that time child labor was common there.

At this factory he heard some of the men talk about America, and how anyone with average intelligence, and the willingness to work, could get ahead there. This was something that was almost

impossible to do in Poland then. He made up his mind that when he was old enough he would go to America. Every payday he would put a little aside for himself. By the time he reached the age of fifteen he had enough saved to buy his ticket to America. The immigration laws were very lenient then, in the early years of the twentieth century. As long as one had enough money to buy his ticket, not many questions were asked.

He said he arrived in New York City with only two dollars in his pocket, unable to speak more than a few words of English, only two years of education in Poland and no one to whom he could turn for help. Luckily he got a job the next day. His employer, no doubt feeling sorry for the fifteen year old boy, advanced him enough money to enable him to stay at a cheap rooming and boarding house.

As soon as he got established in his job and had paid his debts, he started going to night school. The first thing he had to learn was the English language. When he had mastered that, he started taking night courses in other subjects, working during the day to earn his living. When I knew him, in the late twenties, he had what I would consider the equivalent of a grade twelve education, especially in mathematics. He was very good at arithmetic, algebra, trigonometry or anything in that line. As he was then head electrician at the Evansburg underground coal mine, he must have had a good enough education to obtain his electrician's papers.

Before coming to Evansburg, he had worked in a battery shop and could repair old car batteries. He would put in new plates and acid, making them as good as new batteries. While he was head electrician at the mine, he looked after the big batteries on the haulage motors, and kept them in repair. At his home, in one of the mine company houses, he had built the facilities for re-charging car and radio batteries. He did this for several years for the people of Evansburg and Entwistle.

Chris had many practical ideas, gained through experience. There were two coal cutting machines in the mine that had vertical shafts with a large bull-

wheel on the bottom. This shaft ran in bronze bushed bearings. In time these bearings would wear to such an extent that they had to be replaced, and in order to do this the entire bull-wheel and shaft had to be removed. Before Chris came, it had been the practice to jack the heavy machine up and block it high enough to allow the removal of the shaft and wheel from the bottom. Chris just took a jack and tipped the machine on its side, making the whole operation quite simple. No one had thought of doing it that way before. He was full of tricks like that.

Chris was not above selling a bit of moonshine on the sly. He didn't make it himself, but had a brother in Ellerslie, Alberta, who operated the still, and brought the product to Chris for distribution. He kept it in his garage on the back of the lot. One day the station agent phoned to tell Chris a couple of revenue agents had got off the train, so he better cache his moonshine somewhere else. Chris loaded it all into the trunk of his car, and drove away up the alley just as the revenue men came to his front door. By the way - his moonshine was very good. It was almost impossible to tell the difference between it and the legal stuff.

When the Evansburg underground mine closed, Chris and his wife moved to Drumheller, Alberta, where the North American Collieries were opening a mine at Nacmine. While in this mine, when he was alone repairing a coal cutting machine, a pocket of gas was ignited and Chris was killed in the resulting explosion. His wife was living in a house near the entrance to the mine, so when the explosion occurred she knew right away what had happened. She had to run nearly half a mile to get help. When the men finally got to Chris they found that he had been killed instantly by the explosion.

Chris and his wife had no children. Mrs. Buzenius is now deceased. However, there may be some of his brother's descendants still around. I worked as electrician's helper with Chris for several years. One could not wish for a nicer man to work with. When I heard of his demise, I felt just as bad as if he had been my own father.

Forrest and Estelle Hale

by Estelle Hale

Forrest Hale was eleven years old when he came to Evansburg with his parents and his sister, Juanita, in the spring of 1921. His education had been very disrupted with all the moves his parents had made. He had attended school in the U.S.A. and various schools in Saskatchewan and Edmonton before coming to Evansburg. He said he was put back a grade or two every time he changed schools until his only interest in school was recess when he could take part in some form of sport.

In summer, during noon hour, many of the boys went to the Lobstick River to swim at Jock Mitchell's place. The teacher complained to the parents so Mrs. Hale, each morning sewed together the neckband of Forrest's shirt so he could not take it off. A most helpful friend reseeded the shirt each day after the swim until one day he used black thread and that was that.

About this time an older student gave Forrest the nickname of "Frizzle" which stayed with him wherever he went. By the time he was sixteen, Forrest was pitching for the men's baseball team. He played goal for the hockey team. He left school to work at the mine. He had become very interested in learning to play a saxophone, encouraged by Mr. and Mrs. Stokes, new arrivals in Evansburg who had formed a very good dance orchestra. Mrs. Stokes played piano and Mr. Stokes, a saxophone.

When he had earned enough money, Forrest bought a saxophone - an alto - then he began the long process of learning to play it. He kept the neighborhood aroused with his practising, but before long he was able to play a few numbers with the band, improving slowly but surely with the help of Mr. and Mrs. Stokes. He played the same saxophone, with an occasional repair, for the rest of his life. He added a baritone sax for variety and played for many dances in many places. He was very good with a mouth organ and a button accordion, but these were used for family entertainment only. Some of the musicians he played with who will be remembered by the oldtimers are:



Estelle, Vern and Forrest Hale. 1963.

<i>Mr. Stokes</i>	<i>Evansburg</i>	<i>Saxophone</i>
<i>Mrs. Stokes</i>	<i>Evansburg</i>	<i>Piano</i>
<i>Mrs. Durbin</i>	<i>Wildwood</i>	<i>Piano</i>
<i>Mattie Condin</i>	<i>Wildwood</i>	<i>Piano</i>
<i>Albert Anderson</i>	<i>Wildwood</i>	<i>Violin</i>
<i>Arthur Clark</i>	<i>Entwistle</i>	<i>Violin</i>
<i>Bill Clark</i>	<i>Entwistle</i>	<i>Drums</i>
<i>Randolph Dean</i>	<i>Entwistle</i>	<i>Trumpet and Piano</i>
<i>Fred Beschell</i>	<i>Entwistle</i>	<i>Drums</i>
<i>Mrs. Matheson</i>	<i>Styal</i>	<i>Piano</i>
<i>Jim Matheson</i>	<i>Styal</i>	<i>Piano and Accordion</i>
<i>Frank Couves</i>	<i>Evansburg</i>	<i>Banjo</i>
<i>Art Durston</i>	<i>Entwistle</i>	<i>Saxophone</i>
<i>Emma Durston</i>	<i>Entwistle</i>	<i>Piano and Accordion</i>
<i>Otto Wolff</i>	<i>Evansburg</i>	<i>Drums (The Drummer)</i>
<i>Adolph Lorenz</i>	<i>Evansburg</i>	<i>Piano and Accordion</i>
<i>Gary Lorenz</i>	<i>Evansburg</i>	<i>Trumpet and sax</i>
<i>Ed Nelson</i>	<i>Evansburg</i>	<i>Sax and trombone</i>
<i>Anna Laschinsky</i>	<i>Evansburg</i>	<i>Violin</i>
<i>Liesel Laschinsky</i>	<i>Evansburg</i>	<i>Violin</i>
<i>Isabel Young</i>	<i>Evansburg</i>	<i>Piano</i>
<i>Gordon Stafford</i>	<i>Wildwood</i>	<i>Drums</i>

I expect I have forgotten a few. If so, I apologize - it has been a long time. In the 1930's, when times were so hard, the usual way to raise funds for a sports team, for a sick person in the area, or for a family who had lost all in a fire, was to put on a Benefit Dance with the orchestra donating its services. Forrest and others played for so many of these, it would be impossible to recall them at this time.

However, I remember all those white shirts I washed on the washboard and ironed with the old flat irons, one for every dance. Those shirts were not drip dry!

When he was sixteen, Forrest went to work underground at the mine, working as a switchman for Bill Mazeppa, who taught him the job.

Forrest was buried in a cave-in in the mine when he was seventeen. Fortunately, he was in a small pocket under tons of rock. He came out with bruises and an injured knee. William Otto Sr. was injured in the same accident - he was unable to work again.

Forrest and I, Estelle Hutchinson, more often known as Stella, were married November 19, 1930. We set up housekeeping with our few possessions in a building which stood about where Proehl's house is now located. It was a long log structure which had been used as a cookhouse for single men. In 1930, it was owned by John Bjornstad who had made it into four apartments. Jack and Hazel Ebner were in the first apartment on the west; then Joe Broughton, an elderly bachelor; Bill Delorey and his wife with small son, Jack, were in the third apartment; with us on the east end. There were no chimneys in the place, just long lines of stove pipes through the ceiling and out through the roof. It was alarming at times to see a neighbor with pipes red hot to the ceiling. I was always afraid of fire there and when the small boy set fire to one of the big barns one day, it did not ease my fears. When our daughter Jean was a few months old, I insisted we move into Evansburg as I still dreaded a fire where we were. Less than a year later the old place did burn down with the residents losing everything. I was very thankful to be out of there.

As soon as we moved into the new place, a friend told me the place was full of bed bugs. I was frantic and watched everything that moved. One day I caught a small bug, put it in a bottle and rushed up to see Irene Young to ask if it was a bed bug. She had a good laugh when she told me it was just an ant. I was raised on a farm and was so panicky I didn't even know an ant when I saw it. I never did find a bed bug there.

Later we moved to a house on the site where Mr. Demkiw lives. Darold was born there February 3, 1935. He was a year old when we moved to Entwistle where we stayed until 1943, when we went to Mercoal on the Coal Branch.



(Left - Back Row) - Forest Hale and the Rocky Mountain Rangers Orchestra.

We had many problems in those days - all of them related to lack of money. High interest and mortgage rates were not among our problems, however.

Each year the mine closed in the summer for lack of orders, so everyone was looking for work. In 1931, Forrest, Jack Ebner and several others from Evansburg rode the freight trains to Mission City, B.C. to pick strawberries. They couldn't even make enough to pay for decent meals and lodging so they rode the freights back. They took a run up the Coal Branch to Cadomin and Luscar, but those towns were closed camps run by a Union, and non-union workers were not allowed in.

Another summer Forrest and Cameron Hood went to Whitecourt to work in a sawmill. They were hired because they could play baseball. They worked ten hours a day, six days a week for which they were paid one dollar per day less ten cents a day for compensation, with board at a cookhouse and lodging in a bunkhouse. They couldn't stand the bunkhouse so they shared a room in the hotel. The meals were poor so they didn't stay very long. Forrest did make a little extra money playing for dances.

Our daughter, Jean, was born May 9, 1932. We moved to Entwistle when the mine closed in 1936 so she did not live in Evansburg after she was four years old. When she married in 1955, she went to Campbell River, B.C., where she and her husband raised a daughter and two sons. They have a nice ocean view home, their own beach and a boat for fishing, all of which required years of hard work to achieve.

At age eighteen, Darold joined the R.C.A.F. to

become an aero engine mechanic, where he served for twenty-five years, retiring with the rank of Sergeant. Most of his term of service was spent in Quebec, Ontario and Lahr, Germany. He had a term of service in Leopoldville in the Congo in 1960.

Darold was finally stationed at Cold Lake, Alberta, Medley base, then Winnipeg and Namao. His last excursion from Namao was to Thule, Greenland, for a month of twenty-four-hour-a-day darkness.

Darold married Bev Yade in 1956. A son and two daughters were born to them by 1960. They are all married with a family of two children each. Son Ron, has been in the Armed Services - Air Division - for seven years. A second son, Scott, came along in 1972. He lives with his parents on an acreage north of Onoway and takes a school bus to attend school there. He plays hockey so we all hope he may some day play as well as his grandfather Forrest did. Darold works as a millwright for TransAlta Utilities at Wabamun.

Our son, Vern, was born at Entwistle April 24, 1944, but lived in Mercoal until 1955, when we returned to Evansburg again. He completed High School at Evansburg then left to work in Edmonton. He is presently employed by Edmonton Co-op Home Centre in retail management. During his school days in Evansburg, he was active in baseball, hockey and curling.



Jean, Darold and Vern Hale.

After the mine closed, there was no sports activity in Evansburg and very little of anything else, no electricity, no water system, and few people. Entwistle, too, had depended on the mine to a great extent, so things were slow there as well.

Forrest played baseball for Wildwood, Magnolia, and Entwistle, at different times over the next few years. He was a versatile player, changing easily from first base to short stop to third base or catcher as required. The ball games were attended by people of all ages. Our transportation was often by Norman Hanson's truck with everyone standing up in the back. Picnic lunch was taken along as no one had the money to eat out. Forrest usually had an old jalopy so he could get around to play for the dances. One ball tournament at Drayton Valley, I will always remember. Baseball lasted until dusk, after which everyone went to the dance. It started to rain in the early evening so with clay roads in all directions, we knew it was useless to start for home before daylight. Norman had his usual truckload with a few of us in private cars. We only went a few miles along the road before the wheels on each vehicle were completely plugged with clay. We stopped on a hill to wait for the sun to dry the road.

Some of the men walked to Rocky Rapids store where they got the owner out of bed at 5:00 a.m. They were able to buy bread but no butter. Canned salmon was the only sandwich filling available. So at 6:00 a.m. we sat by the road and ate dry salmon sandwiches with nothing to drink. We finally got to Entwistle at 4:30 p.m. Needless to say, the babysitter, Juanita, was very relieved to have us take over our two children.

When we first moved to Entwistle, Forrest was fortunate to get work on Enger's new store which was just under construction. He was kept on to make the finishing touches, even to putting up the clothes line.

On New Year's Eve, 1937, Forrest played for the dance in Entwistle Hall. The following day he worked all day at Ostertag's mill. When he came home he was very sick so we took him to Edmonton to the General Hospital where they diagnosed pneumonia. Two days later, his appendix ruptured and he had to undergo surgery in spite of the pneumonia. He was ill for months and could not work at day labor. He answered an

advertisement for a saxophone player with a band in Lacombe. He was accepted and spent the next eighteen months playing six nights a week for the "Rocky Mountain Rangers". The band was moved to Edmonton later with the name changed to "Joe Johnson's Orchestra". They were well known in the Edmonton area for a long time. Forrest left them late in 1938, coming back to work at Bill Robinson's planer mill at Entwistle station.

My work through the hard times was to cook, sew and knit for the family. I raised a big garden whenever possible. We all picked berries. If we had no sugar, they were canned without and sweetened when used. I always had homecanned vegetables and pickles on the shelf, too.

One very interesting neighbor we had in Entwistle was an old Norwegian lady who was known to all as "Aunty Tufty". She had a big blue enamel coffee pot, about fifteen-cup size, which was always on the stove. She never emptied the coffee grounds until it was almost full. Then she figured the coffee was no good until the brew built up. I dreaded having to drink such strong coffee, but I could only avoid it so long. One day she came while we were eating lunch to bring us some pickled herring which we all disliked intensely. She stayed until we ate it - we just couldn't hurt her feelings. Aunty Tufty feared nothing. When her nephew's cattle, including a bull which terrified us, got loose and came to our area, Aunty would put on her big knee-length red sweater and, taking a stick, she would walk up to the bull, hit it on the nose and tell it to go home - which it did very meekly. I guess the bull was like us - it just couldn't be rude to her.

Mrs. Seedhouse did maternity nursing in her home at Entwistle. When she had more than one patient I was often called in to help her. My job was to bathe the new baby and help in general. Twice, I was the only help she had to deliver a baby when Dr. Chisholm was unable to make it in time. This led to an unusual experience for me in August, 1940. Dr. Chisholm and Mrs. Seedhouse had delivered a premature baby at a farm just out of Entwistle. Neither the mother nor the baby were in good condition.

Dr. Chisholm came for me at 10:00 a.m. the

following morning, August 29, and told me of the circumstances. The mother was alone with two children - her husband was working in Drumheller. Mrs. Seedhouse had three patients at her house so she could not help. Dr. Chisholm insisted I take my two children with me and go out to take care of her and her son, George. I got our things together and the doctor drove us to the farm. I had only met her once, very briefly, so I was uneasy about the task I was undertaking. I am sure she had many doubts, too.

Besides the mother and the baby, I found I had fifteen-year-old Robert, five-year-old Betty Ann, and my own two children who were eight and five, to cook and care for. There were cows to milk and chickens to feed, which were Robert's chores. He was also supposed to bring in wood and water, but he didn't always do it. They were selling milk at the time so there was milk to bottle, and bottles to wash.

As soon as Dr. Chisholm had outlined the care required for mother and baby, he had me go outside with him where he told me not to feel it was my fault if anything happened to either of them as neither of them had too great a chance of survival. Then he drove away and left me. He did visit faithfully morning and evening, and after the first week, he was more optimistic of their chances. Dr. Chisholm sent a telegram to the husband asking him to come home. The baby had colic so I walked the floor every night with him - at least, I was sure he was still alive as long as he was screaming. I had a small coal oil lamp for light which flickered and made shadows everywhere, the wind blew every night, the coyotes howled, and usually there was a carload or two of cattle on the siding at the Entwistle station, all bawling at once.

My children and Betty Ann were not much trouble, and certainly the mother was undemanding, so much so that when I gave her coffee for just about every meal she did not tell me that she drank only tea. Robert was the problem - he came and went as he pleased. Sometimes I was bottling milk at 11:00 p.m., the chores were done only when he could put them off no longer. Having since raised three children of my own through their teen years, I can now be more tolerant of his behavior, but at the time he was problem number one.

On a Sunday morning at 4:00 a.m. there was a knock on the door, so I put on my old bathrobe and went to unlock the door to find the husband there. Not really awake, I said: "Oh, it's you!", and went back to bed after telling the wife that her husband had arrived. I realized soon that he was still in the kitchen so I got up again and found him just standing there. He had not received the telegram and had no idea that his wife was ill. He could not figure out what I was doing in his house at any time - much less at 4:00 a.m. on a Sunday morning.

Things were easier with the husband home - he took tea to his wife regularly. I was embarrassed to think of all the coffee I had served her. I was glad to go home at the end of two weeks, but I had to admit I was pleased that mother and son were out of danger. I had really enjoyed the challenge. Best of all, the mother and I became good friends, which we still are.

When war broke out in 1939, Forrest was on crutches with torn ligaments in one leg. He was unable to get his birth certificate or naturalization papers. He was not listed as an American citizen or as a Canadian - he just did not exist as far as records went. He applied for permission to go to the Coal Branch to work in 1943, but the Selective Service Board told him to stay where he was as lumber was an essential product. He just got on a train and went to Mercoal, where he worked for twelve years. He didn't hear from the Selective Service Board either. As usual, he joined an orchestra, played for dances in all the mining towns, played baseball, and took up curling.

In 1946, Forrest began to have circulatory problems which necessitated many long stays in hospital. I went to work in a laundry where at one time I ironed as many as eighty shirts a day. I was paid by the piece. It was the only work I could get where I could choose my hours, and since Vern was only two years old, I wanted to work only when his sister or brother could be with him. Later, I worked in the drug store as clerk, bookkeeper, telephone operator, or serving at the confectionery counter, depending on what was the most urgent at the moment. With occasional help from a good neighbor, we managed to keep the family together and the bills paid.



Forrest Hale home moved to Evansburg from Cadomin.

We left Mercoal in 1955 because Forrest was unable to work. The circulatory problem was incurable and he was on crutches, a situation which was expected to be permanent.

I had bought a house at Cadomin when the mine there closed. This house was moved to Evansburg in sections and set up, with a lot of new material added, on one of two lots which I owned. We lived with my mother for a short time until we could get part of our place ready to move into.

Each day before Vern went to school he set out the tools and materials which his dad would need for the day's work. In this way, Forrest was able to put on siding, install insulation and gyproc in spite of being on crutches. Vern and I helped with the heavier jobs when we could.

Just when we were preparing to move to Evansburg, Mr. Hale (Forrest's father) died, and our daughter, Jean, got married. Needless to say, the pressure was a bit much at times. I worked taking tickets at shows which were held in the Legion Hall at that time, and I worked part time at the Post Office until the spring of 1956, when I took over as A.G.T. agent. The office was in an extension built on the north side of the hotel. The third day I had the job, the hotel burned down and we lost all the switchboards and the cable records. I was already confused as to what was expected of me, and the fire just rounded it all off.

I got permission to train Forrest as a telephone

operator. We worked there until automation took over in October, 1966. There were many different persons who worked as operators in the ten and a half years I was the agent. I have a ribbon with thirty-five names of operators who attended a farewell party given for us, and I know all the names were not on the ribbon.

When the A.G.T. office closed, we moved to an apartment in Edmonton. Forrest worked for Birks at Westmount as shipper and giftwrapper - a long way from building mine cars in a carshop. I went to N.A.I.T. and took a business course, after which I worked in the office of Links Associate Clinic until my retirement in April 1977, a period of nine and a half years. I liked this work better than anything I had done before.

Forrest died of a hemorrhage November 27, 1969. He is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

I returned to Evansburg to live in my home here which required a great deal of repair and renovation. The yard was a disaster area with not a sign left of shrubs or perennials which I had planted. Darold, his wife Bev, and Vern did my packing and moving for me. They have also helped to make the necessary improvements to make my place a home. The roses are in bloom every year along with a lot of other flowers and shrubs. It all makes a restful change from apartment living and city traffic.

I am treasurer for the United Church Women's



Lorenz Orchestra (L—R) Adolph Lorenz, Gary Lorenz, Otto Wolff, Frizzle Hale.

Association, and secretary for the Senior Citizens' Society in Evansburg, having held both offices for the past four years.

The family grows larger each year. I now have seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Muldoons

Frank Muldoon came to Canada in July, 1920, with his brother, John, from Glasgow, Scotland. They went directly to Pocohontas to work in the mine.

Nine months later the mine closed so his brother returned to Scotland.

In May, 1921, Mrs. Muldoon arrived in Pocohontas with their two sons, Frank Jr. aged two years, and Steven nine months.

Frank then worked at Brule for a month walking back and forth every day.

In July, 1921, he moved the family to Evansburg, living in a tent for three months with the Mullen family while their house was being built.

Bob was born in April, 1922. A year later, Frank went to the mine at Nordegg. He worked there until his accident which broke his pelvis, ribs, and both arms and legs. He was in the hospital nine months and then returned to his family in Evansburg.

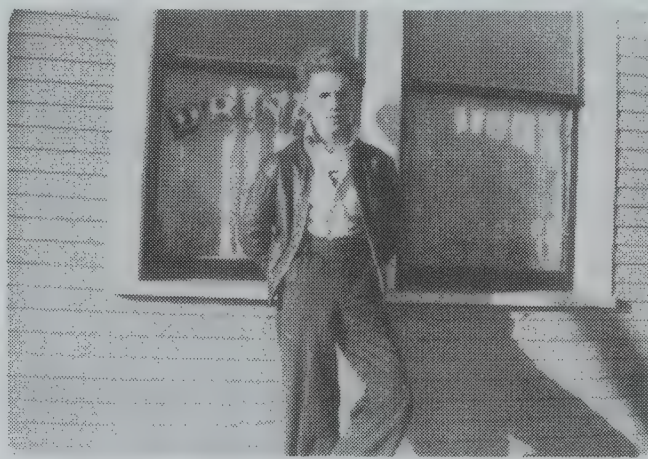
After his recuperation, he became Timekeeper at the Evansburg mine.

Jim was born in February, 1924; and in July, Steve was drowned in the mine reservoir.

Margaret was born in July, 1926, and Jack in April, 1930. When the mine closed, Frank became janitor of the school for three years. He then went to work for Mr. Macphee in the store until he and Mr. Mitchell re-opened the store uptown. Frank bought Mr. Mitchell out three years later and was there until he retired in 1960.



Mr. and Mrs. Muldoon with Steve, Bob and Frank Jr.



Jimmy Muldoon

Mrs. Muldoon was active in the community, a thirty-year member in C.W.L., and a life member of the Women's Auxiliary.

Frank Jr. left Evansburg in 1936 to become a Forest Ranger. He worked in the Drayton Valley area until he joined the Navy in 1942. After his discharge he drove a bus for Coachways and was later manager for Greyhound. In 1969 he moved to Revelstoke, B.C.

Bob left Evansburg in 1938 to work in a sawmill until he joined the navy in 1942. He was married to Nan Lacusta in 1943. In 1945 Nan and their daughter Shirley moved to Evansburg until Bob's discharge. They then went to Robb until 1949, and then to Edmonton working for the Edmonton Water Plant. He lived in Edmonton until his death in 1979. He had four daughters and one son.

Jim left Evansburg in 1942 to work in the Vancouver ship yards until he joined the Army in 1943. After his discharge he drove a bus for Greyhound. He married Dorothy Magee. They have three sons and one daughter, and live in Sicamous, B.C.

Margaret left Evansburg for Vegreville, where she took nurse's training, graduating in 1952. She married Maurice Sieffert in 1953. They now reside in Edmonton and have two sons.

Jack left Evansburg in 1947 to join the Navy. After his discharge in 1952 he drove a truck until he went to Edmonton to drive for Edmonton Transit. He married Astrid Nielson in 1955. They have one son and two daughters.

In 1965 Mr. and Mrs. Muldoon moved to Edmonton, residing there until Frank's death in 1967. Mrs. Muldoon, now eighty nine years old, lives in Sherwood Park Senior Citizen's Home. She has eleven great grand children.

The Hodgkinson Family

John Albert Hodgkinson was born September 12, 1878 at Hucknall, Nottingham, England.

Rosa Elizabeth Baxter was born December 18, 1878. They were married July 21, 1902 at the Parish Church in Hucknall.

They immigrated to Nova Scotia, Canada. While living there they had a son born to them, Albert Hector in May, 1904.

They moved to Edmonton in 1912. Their second son, John Lawrence was born December 7, 1915 in Edmonton.

In 1922, they moved to Evansburg where Albert was employed as fire boss in the mine. Rosa was very actively involved in the church. After the mine closed, Albert operated an auto court.

His son John graduated from Evansburg High School. He worked in the mine for a while and then

joined the Navy. He married Hilda Jacobi shortly after the war ended. They had seven children. Two of them reside on the old Hodgkinson property in Evansburg.

Hector Albert had two sons.

Rosa died February 11, 1965 and Albert was soon to follow. He passed away September 7, 1965.

Both John and Hector reside in Edmonton, and are retired.

John remembers when the train from Edmonton to Evansburg used to take eight hours. He recalls a story about the train which they dubbed "The Muskeg Special." It seems the train had been travelling for a couple of hours when it stopped. One of the passengers asked the reason, and the conductor told him it was because a cow was on the track. After a couple more hours travelling, they stopped again. "What are we stopped for this time?" asked the passenger. "It is that damn cow again", he was told.

Mrs. Elizabeth (Lily) Goodwin

(nee - Young)

Lily married William (Bill) Goodwin in 1922 when he was C.N.R. station master. He was born in 1893 in Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario.



Mr. W. Goodwin at Evansburg Station.



Billy Goodwin



Kenny Goodwin.

They lived at the C.N.R. station residence until he retired at age sixty-three. They then moved into a private dwelling of their own where Lily still lives.

Bill passed away on May 25th, 1969, aged seventy-six.

They had two boys in their family - Bill and Ken.

Bill married Jean Crawford and they have nine children - five girls and four boys. Bill and Jean reside at Thorhild, Alberta.

Ken married Martha Trenholm and they have two daughters. They reside in Edmonton.

MacMurchy and Ebner Stories

by Hazel Ebner

My parents, George and Jane MacMurchy, started out their married life near Lavenham, Manitoba. It was hard work farming in that locality. When Dad went to Saskatchewan to help harvest one fall, he was so impressed with the bumper crop of oats, etc. and the easy cultivation of the soil, he decided to move there to live. In the fall of 1909 we left Manitoba and moved to a new farm fifty miles south of Maple Creek.

After we arrived in Maple Creek with our boxcar of settlers effects, we had to load up a wagon, with a canvas over our belongings, and travel fifty miles to our farm. Mother and some of the older ones walked most of the way as did the cows and dog.

Our years in Saskatchewan were very difficult. Dad often remarked that the crop of grain he had helped harvest the year before we moved there, was the only crop he saw there. Feed for our livestock was very scarce. I remember my uncle hauling oat sheaves from a farm twenty miles away - a two-day trip. One year we lost all our flock of sheep and many of our other livestock. We decided it was time to move from there.

We moved to Lamont, Alberta, to stay with some relatives until we could get a home of our own. My brother, Norman, had taken a homestead about seven miles north of Styal. My father, brothers and a friend of my brothers, Jack Ebner, built a log house for us on Norman's homestead. Jack Ebner had been Norman's friend for some time, so when Norman had to go back to Maple Creek to attend to some business, Jack decided to come here and get a job. Jack is my husband.

Mother, Ronald, Reita and I came to Styal in 1924. Styal was our post office. There was a grocery store there. Dad met the train, and we set out for our new home with team and wagon. What a trip! Mud to the axles much of the way! We forded the Lobstick River near where Mr. and Mrs. Street lived and ploughed through the mud out to our new neighbors, the Sylvesters. There were only three newly settled homesteads from Streets to Sylvesters.

We stayed with the Sylvesters until our log house was completed. Mother was expecting a baby in the spring and to make things more worrisome, we learned there was not anyone around experienced in midwifery. When Mother's time came, a neighbor lady, Mrs. Couves, came in to help me, and by more good luck than know how, everything turned out well. Mother and Dad had another son, George.

We had been kept busy during the winter. We had to melt snow for all our water, besides getting wood for heating. Dad and the boys worked out at any jobs they could find. Nevertheless, we had a fairly good winter.

By spring, Dad saw we couldn't make a living on

the homestead so we moved down near Evansburg and my brothers got work in the coal mine. Dad took care of the skating rink the next winter.

In the spring we all went to work at John Bjornstad's saw mill near Park Court. Mom and I looked after the cook-house. Dad and the boys worked at the mill. Dad and John Bjornstad got along together very well and became good friends. If Mr. Bjornstad was taking a load of lumber to town and Dad was not too busy, he would ride with him. Sometimes they made the trip by horseback with one horse, one would ride to an appointed place, tie the horse to a tree and walk on. Meanwhile the other one, who had been walking from point A, would get to the horse and ride on to the second appointed place, then he would tie up the horse and take off walking. That way each rode horseback half way and walked half way.

While at Bjornstad's Camp, Jack Ebner and I became engaged. After we left the camp and moved back to Evansburg, we decided to get married. There was not an ordained minister at the United Church, so we were thinking we would have to go to Edmonton to be married, which would mean none of my family would be there to witness our marriage. Then things really began to happen. At our hot-cross bun sale on Good Friday, Mr. Earle told me an ordained minister would be out for the Easter Sunday service and would marry Jack and me. My first reaction was we didn't have a wedding band - no problem, my finger was measured and someone offered to bring the ring out from Edmonton.

Saturday was a busy day. Mother made my wedding dress, cooking for a family reception was attended to, and finally my favorite aunt, who is about my own age and more like a sister than an aunt, and uncle came to have Easter with the family. They were quickly persuaded to be our matron of honour and groomsman. It was a very happy wedding day. It was the first wedding to be held in the Evansburg United Church.

About two years after we were married we were

blessed with a baby girl, Donna Marion. When we were married Jack was working in the mine, but it was not long before the work began getting less and less. We moved down to Mr. Bjornstad's farm, near where the Proehl and Lorenz buildings are at present. A teacher, Miss Gladys Stephens, boarded with us for awhile. A second baby girl, Evelyn, was born here.

When Evelyn was a year old, the house was burned to the ground. We lost everything as the fire had started upstairs from the stove pipes and had a good hold before I discovered it. Jack was away working. I was thankful our little girls were downstairs. Although people were short of money, they rallied around us and soon, with their kindness and generosity, we were able to set up housekeeping back in Evansburg.

However times were hard. Jack worked for Abernethy in a saw-mill on the Pembina, near where the Ostertag mine was later developed.

In 1935 our twins, Bobby and Betty were born. They completed our happy little family.

Financially, things kept going from bad to worse. Dad and Mom had a little farm near MacDiarmids and things were not going well for them either. Dad had worked for the mine company. They lived in the pump house by the Pembina River as well as farmed until the mine closed. Then we decided to go and try our luck in B.C.

There were more hard times and it took plenty of hard work to get started again. Now we live quite comfortably in New Westminster.

Mother and Father passed away several years ago.

Norman married Elsie Ahlskog of Wildwood. They had a family of seven boys and three girls. Norman, Elsie, daughter Jean and son Edward are deceased.

Donald married Leona Hansen of Wildwood.



Mr. and Mrs. George MacMurphy



George MacMurphy and Jack Price.



Reita, George, Don and Ron MacMurphy, 1973



Jack and Hazel Ebner and some of their family

They raised a family of two boys and an adopted boy and an adopted girl. Donald and Leona live near New Westminster.

Ronald married Ruby Adams from B.C. Their family is made up of two boys and one girl. They also live near New Westminster.

Reita married Ignor Sagmoen and had a family of three boys and two girls. Reita passed away in 1978 at Prince George, B.C.

Jack and Hazel Ebner's family:

Donna and her husband have a family of four and live in New Westminster, B.C.

Evelyn, a widow, lives in Victoria, B.C. She has four children.

Bob has three boys and lives in New Westminster, B.C.

Betty, a widow, has a girl and five boys.

George lives in New Westminster, B.C.

Thomas F. and Annie M. Hutchinson

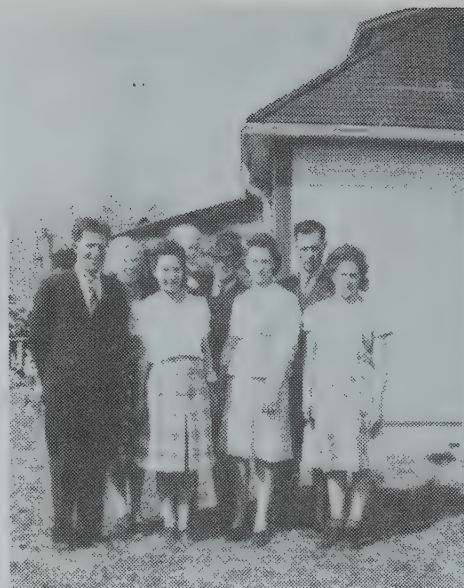
by Edna Hadley and Aleck Hutchinson

The Hutchinson family arrived in Evansburg via C.N.R. in late March 1924. We came from Good-

water in southern Saskatchewan where our father had farmed in partnership for thirteen years. After many crop failures in succession due to drought, grasshoppers, rust, hail and an unsatisfactory financial arrangement our father decided to dissolve the partnership and go on his own. Besides there was no high school near, and the family was approaching high school age.

Thomas Hutchinson was born in Hamilton, Ontario in 1877 into a family of fourteen. He left home at an early age and lived with grandparents on a farm in Quebec. Then as a young man he came west to Pierson, Manitoba, where he began farming. Here he met and married Annie Hope of Melita, Manitoba. Annie was born in 1884 the eldest of a family of six. (Both our parents traced their families back to Presbyterian Scots of Glengarry County in Eastern Ontario; but Tom's father reportedly came from Belfast, Ireland and played in the Hamilton city band.) In Manitoba two sons were born to Annie and Tom - Frederick (Ted) and Herbert (Bert). They moved to Weyburn, Sask. in 1909. Shortly afterwards Edna Munro was born and shortly after this they moved to the farm in the Goodwater area. Here two more children were born, Estelle and Aleck. At the age of eleven, Ted, who was a good horseman, was killed in a tragic accident in a horse round-up.

In 1923 our parents began to explore the possibilities of settling in a different area. A letter by Arthur Wolff of Styal Alberta was printed in the Farm and Ranch Review, together with a picture of sheep feeding in a pasture, describing the homestead country west of Edmonton near the coal mining site of Evansburg. This appealed to Tom Hutchinson, so he made a visit to the area. To him it looked like the Promised Land, so he assembled two carloads of furniture, machinery, cattle, ten head of horses, a few Shetland and Welsh ponies and



Hutchinson family

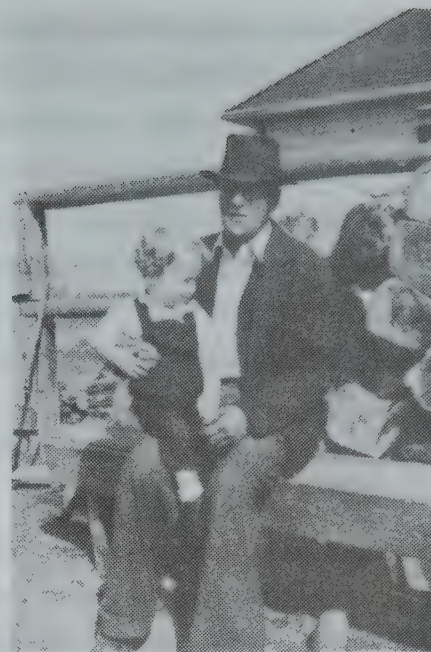
Bert, Mrs. Hutchinson, Edna, Mr. Hutchinson holding grandson, Estelle, Aleck and Doris.

other equipment necessary for a start on a homestead in the area. The C.N. Railways allowed one man per car, so Pete Miller and Bert travelled with the cars to care for the animals. Pete Miller had been working on the farm in Saskatchewan, and thought he would like to have a look at this new area, and if he liked it he would send for his family at a later date. The Hutchinson family followed by train, a three day ordeal, with all the waiting at various stations for connections with Edmonton and then Evansburg.

Having lived on the prairie all of our lives, we stared in amazement at the sights and events that awaited us in this new world. The railway station was in the midst of poplar woods. Driving towards the village we emerged from the woods, first at the mine site. The dominant features were the black tipple and the smouldering mountain of dirt, rock, discarded coal and ash, known locally as the 'dump'. It was a mining company village with no other industry. The ground was bare when we left Saskatchewan but the snow in Alberta was too deep for wheels. So wagon, democrat and buggy had to be unloaded to get at the sleighs. A set of heavy duty bob-sleighs was put together. Essential

household articles including cookstove and home-canned food were loaded. Leaving the village we crossed the Lobstick River and followed a bush trail to the farm of Paul Rhein and family. It was dark by this time and we had another half mile to go the Rhein's other property known as the Lee place. This was a two-story house of spruce logs, but unfortunately had no windows. The first task was to shovel out the snow. Horse blankets were hung over the openings to keep out the cold. The cookstove was set up, whereupon our mother, by some miracle prepared a hot meal. Dessert was canned saskatoons and home made bread and butter brought from Saskatchewan. It was quite late by the time we were all bedded down on the kitchen floor. Next day we expanded our living quarters into the rest of the house, Dad having installed windows and a wood burning heater. Our stay in this house was only temporary. Arrangements were made to rent the property of Nate Broughton, one-half mile further from 'town'. Beautifully located on the bank of a small creek was a two-room log house with a large yard enclosed by a picket fence. Fresh spruce logs were cut from along the creek for a lean-to addition to the house. The spaces between the logs were chinked with moss. Here the Hutchinson family lived for nearly two years while a new home site was developed. Our neighbors were John Marshall and his sons Bob and Charley. Across the road Joe Broughton, then in his seventies lived in a one-room log shanty with dirt floor and pole and sod roof. The Nate Broughton place was subsequently owned by Bob Marshall, Pete Peterson and Don Barry.

School facilities in Evansburg in 1924 appeared to be good. Located at the north end of the main street near the river bank were two buildings with two classrooms in each building. There were three teachers each teaching four grades. Lindsay Thurber taught the high school including Grade twelve. The fourth room was used by students for unsupervised games of basketball, volleyball, boxing or whatever.



Thos. Hutchinson with grandson Vern.

Dad had brought a light buggy and driving horse intended to be used for transportation to and from school, but with only trails with deep mud holes and often times logs fallen across the trails, it was easier to walk the five miles to and from school than to cope with these. Sometimes we would ride the ponies and stable them in a barn on the Jack Lewis place, the present site of the Justus Otto home. When the pole bridge at the MacDiarmid crossing went out with the ice, we had to go by the bridge on the North Road. When the water was not too high we forded the river at MacDiarmid's or Martin's crossing. At the latter crossing there was a swinging foot bridge suspended on cables that we used if we were walking. In the early winter some of us stayed after school to practise for the Christmas concert. Miss Want, the intermediate teacher taught singing and dancing, especially folk dances. After these practices we had to walk home following the sleigh trail through the woods. We would often wait for Bob Marshall walking home from the mine as it was a bit scary after dark when the coyotes howled.

In the meantime Tom and Annie Hutchinson bought three hundred and twenty acres of undeveloped bush land from the Pembina Coal Company for four dollars an acre. They began

developing a home on this land two miles north of Evansburg namely N½-31-53-8-5. The basement was dug with horse power and scrapers and the walls were cribbed with tamarac poles. My dad believed these would last for years. He was later proved to be wrong because soil in this area was not as dry as it was on the prairie. The foundation for the house was fir bridge timbers (twelve inches by twelve inches) acquired from a trestle of the Canadian Northern Railway west of Evansburg.

The logs for the house were poplar hewed by Joe Jackson with his famous broad axe and erected on end. This construction was unique. The logs were peeled of remaining bark, cut into eight foot lengths, notched at each end and then placed vertically to make a pallisade-like wall. The logs were attached top and bottom to horizontal plates. The corner logs were secured together with large wooden pins. Building in this manner, the dimensions of the house were not limited by the length of the logs. The house was finished with a cottage roof with cedar shingles and dormer windows. The chief carpenters were Pete Miller and Mr. Muntz, a skilled cabinet maker by trade. A pipeless coal furnace was installed in the basement for heating, supplemented by an air tight wood heater on the first floor. A two-flue brick chimney built from the basement up, vented these heating units as well as the coal and wood cook stove. The hot water system consisted of a side reservoir on the cook stove. Soft water for washing was obtained from melting snow in winter and from rain water in summer. Two wooden barrels caught the run off from the galvanized metal eave troughs.

While the house was being built a summer camp was set up. A ridge pole was spiked to two trees and a lean-to erected, open on one side. Two ply of rough lumber sloped to the ground on the other side. If the weather threatened to be unpleasant horse blankets could be hung on the open side. At



Hutchinson family home built of upright logs. Doris in the foreground.

the home base three miles away, Mother, Estelle and I (Edna) took care of the farm chores and the preparation of food which we had to deliver to the building site by horse and buggy. We drove the ponies or sometimes it was my lot to deliver the hot dinner by horseback. We had a Welsh stallion called 'Pirate' which I often rode. He could be very difficult to manage, and I recall one day in particular, on arriving with the hot dinner for the work-men, 'Pirate' had to have a creamed cauliflower rub down. Wild fruit grew in abundance this summer, so it was also our task to deliver the dinner and pick a few pails of wild fruit before returning home. This provided desserts either fresh with cream and sugar or in pies. The surplus was preserved as jam with rhubarb or conserved whole without sugar, but with a few slices of lemon added.

Two wells were dug; and these had to be done by hand. The first was abandoned as a dry hole after about fifty feet. A water diviner was brought in who zeroed in on a spot about seventy-five feet

from the house; but the water was not close to the surface. The laborious digging of a square hole four by four feet was begun again. Digging was mostly through sandstone that had to be blasted with dynamite a few feet at a time. John Marshall, an experienced coal miner drilled the hole with a hand operated auger, put in the round sticks of dynamite with a blasting cap and fuse attached. After lighting the fuse he climbed the ladder built into the sides of the square cribbing of rough lumber. The fuse had to be long enough to allow time to get out before the blast went off. Then the generated gases had to be given time to clear, perhaps overnight. Always before descending the well a lighted kerosene lantern was lowered on a rope to test for gases dangerous to health. After each blast the sandstone was broken up further with pick and shovel. It was loaded in a bucket on a rope attached to a windlass, and brought to the surface. Water was reached at a depth of ninety feet. For a few years we used the windlass to draw up our water supply. This was hard labor filling the trough for the animals. Later we acquired a pump. But this was also hard labor raising the water up the long cylinder. Finally we acquired a pump jack and a three horse-power engine. The water supply was good but too hard for laundry purposes.

A large barn was built in the conventional manner. It had a hip roof with tracks and car controlled by rope and pulleys for hoisting forage in slings from the hay wagon to the barn loft. A team of horses pulling on the one and one quarter inch sisal rope provided the power. Dad was adept at splicing rope. Ropes of nylon were unknown. A log lean-to attached to one side of the barn sheltered sheep. At the other side of the barn a rail fence provided a handy holding corral for the milk cows. Besides this there was a feed lot shelter used in winter months and a low log structure with a rail fence enclosure for the hogs. A chicken house was added to house the hens, a good weekly source of income.

Dad filed on a homestead north west of Evansburg, SW 14-54-8-5, and held it until Bert became of age to file on it for himself. For fifteen years they worked together developing both farmsites. Dad was a taciturn man and cared little for materialistic comforts. If he had a table to eat from, a bed to sleep in, a comfortable rocker to sit and read, and a pipe to smoke, he was content.

We moved into the house in the fall of 1925 before it was finished and it never was finished. We found it much easier to get to school from this location. In fact Aleck found it a 'breeze'. He would don his skis at the top of the rise and go all the way to the bridge. Returning was not such a breeze. In winter months we would often catch on to the back of a sleigh going north to ride up the long hill.

All the family worked hard to eke out a living from the farm. While mine families lived in Evansburg there was always a demand for fresh produce. We milked cows and delivered milk, cream and butter to regular customers. We raised chickens and sold eggs and dressed poultry. We raised turkeys and sold them in season. We raised sheep and in season butchered and peddled fresh lamb. In the fall beef was killed, cut and wrapped. We had to get orders for the meat first and deliver it in first class condition. We had pigs, and pork was cured for home use. Beef was put into brine to make corned beef. My mother rendered the fat and made lye soap which was used for laundry purposes.

In the winter months Dad and Bert cut mine props. They had a contract with the mine company to cut and deliver props for five cents each. They also cut and packed ice for the Evansburg Hotel and for Bruce and Macphee's General Store. It was cold wet heavy labor. Ice harvest usually started in January when the ice on the Pembina would be from two to three feet thick. The horses had to be

sharp shod for the trips up the river and for the trips down the hills and especially for the long haul of the loaded sleighs up the hill to the ice houses. Snow had to be cleared from the ice before the operations began. The blocks would be marked out, cut with the saw and then ice tongs used to pull them from the water and load them onto the waiting sleighs. Often times neighbors would meet there and work together. The ice was then hauled to the ice houses and packed in sawdust for summer use. Sawdust too had to be hauled from the nearby sawmills. The days were short at this time of the year but the work days were long. Horses and men would be ready and on their way before daybreak and arrive home after dark with horses to care for and ready for the next day's work.

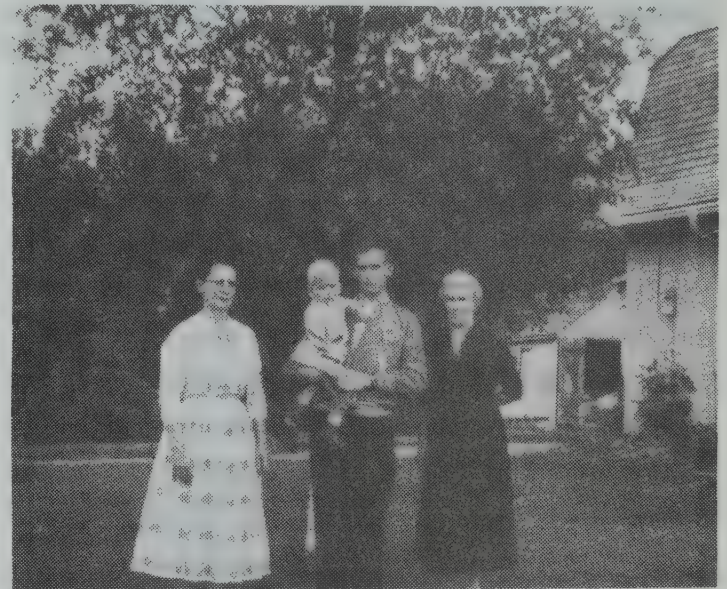
Summer months brought a different type of work. The work horses were put to work on road building with fresnoes and scrapers. Bert was the driver of the twelve-up and worked with Pete Miller who was the foreman building the road north of Evansburg. When our house was built in 1925 the North Road ended just beyond our building site.

Sheep shearing was another job every year about June, on a warm day, to be sure the wool would be dry. Dad would do the clipping while we would take turns turning the handle to run the machine. It was hot tedious work with flies, heat and stench. If we weren't cranking the machine, we would be folding and tying the wool into bales to be packed into large sacks. The smallest person usually was delegated to get into the sack to pack down the bales.

The soil produced good gardens; it would grow all types of vegetables including tomatoes, cucumbers, pumpkins and squash. The area was immune to late spring frosts or early fall frosts. The twenty-fourth of May meant potato planting time and the first holiday in September - Labor Day meant



Threshing days. Dr. Aleck Hutchinson Centre.



(Right) Annie Hutchinson with grandson Darold Hale, great-grandson Ron Hale and daughter Estelle Hale. Four Generations.

potato picking time. We had brought a potato digger from the prairies but the potatoes had to be picked and not stored in the cellar immediately. They were put into pits, covered with the tops and soil and left to 'sweat' and ripen. Then later in the fall the potatoes would be removed from the pit and stored in the cellar. This operation seemed to take place on the coldest day in the fall; the same with the picking of the tomatoes and cucumbers. The basement had a dirt floor but never was flooded. Vegetables kept well throughout the winter. In the spring of 1933, we sorted and bagged a wagonload of potatoes and hauled them six miles over two sets of river hills and bartered them at twenty five cents a bushel for food and clothing.

For many years we mined our own coal from the banks of the Pembina River about three miles east of the farm. It had to be blasted loose with dynamite. Parts of these coal seams were burning and had been burning for many years. Alternately we got our coal from the mine in Evansburg. Most settlers cut wood for fuel. Chain saws and power saws in the woods were unknown. Large tracts of muskeg contained stands of dry tamarac poles which made excellent firewood high in B T U's. Tamarac also made good rot resistant fence posts. The tamarac had been killed possibly twenty years earlier by a bark beetle. By the mid-twenties the dead tamarac, mostly still standing, were hardy and dry, having lost all their bark and branches. So complete was the kill by the bark beetle, it was many years before we knew what a live tamarac looked like.

Because the land surrounding our farm site belonged to the Mine Company, we had no close neighbours, and at first we had no fences so the cattle wandered at will. It was necessary to have bells on them to locate them. If they were lying down or if a wind were blowing, we could spend a few hours trying to locate them. We rode ponies to bring them home; the sheep we tried to keep closer in. Many days we herded sheep on the slopes where the present Pembina Valley Golf Course lies. While the horses worked out, the ponies were used extensively for transportation. We had a light buggy and harness for them. In winter months we drove them in a light cutter. They could really cover the ground, especially when they were on their way back home. Some of the descendants can still be seen around the country.

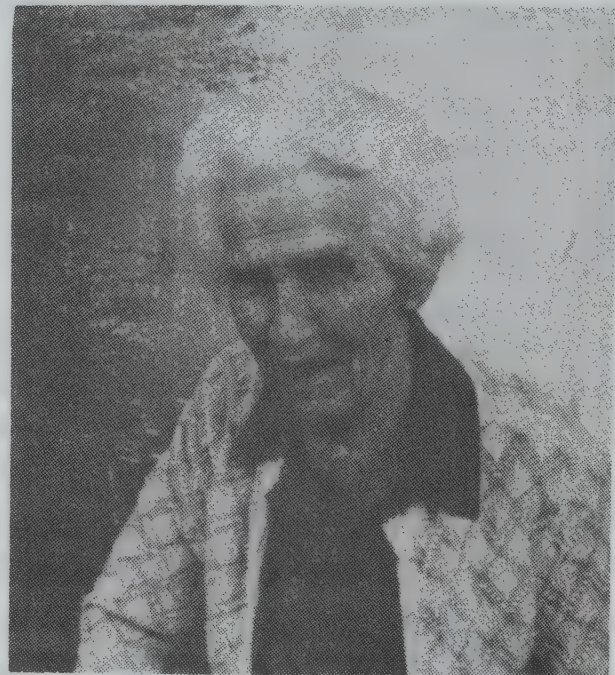
Life wasn't all work. We had one of the first radios with a separate speaker, giving us Old Time Music from Calgary and also 'Amos and Andy'. Dances in the school houses; Gowanbrae and Big Joe's house in the Holly Springs area provided a



Edna (Hutchinson) Hadley with pony used to herd sheep and cattle on the river hills.



Hutchinson fruit farm, 1940.



Mrs. Annie Hutchinson at age 97 years.

weekly outing from the work routine. Everyone went to the dance, babies and all. Wallace and Fred Lamb provided music with accordeon and violin or Mr. Thornhill brought his gramophone and we danced to the 'White River Stomp'. Saturday night parties were common, going weekly from house to

house. Wild fruit grew in abundance, saskatoons, high bush cranberries, chokecherries and blueberries, and all were picked and canned. Dad was interested in fruit growing and planted a few hardy fruit trees in the shelter of a natural wind-break. They were from Seager Wheeler's Nursery at Rosthern, Saskatchewan. Crabapples and Manitoba native plums were the most successful but quantities of sandcherries and their hybrids and even a few large apples were grown. Aleck became interested in it at an early age and made it his life long profession. In 1927 Edna attended Calgary Normal school to begin a life career in education. In 1928 Doris Marie was born to Tom and Annie Hutchinson. In 1930 Estelle married Forrest Hale. The stories of each family member are separate units in this history book. In 1939 Bert married Evelyn Feldberg and they moved to Bert's farm, but he and Dad continued to work together. Dad was interested in community affairs. He was one of the members instrumental in the building of the United Church and was a life-long member. He was a Director and shareholder in the Evansburg Co-op. He became Divisional Trustee in the Edson School Division in 1944 and remained in office until his passing in 1950.

In 1948 Tom and Annie Hutchinson retired from farming and purchased land and a house in Evansburg; the house with approximately nine acres was one of the first buildings in Evansburg. It was a large log building with five bedrooms and was used originally as a rooming house. It was later the site of the first Police Barracks in Evansburg; and then used as a residence.

After the passing of Tom Hutchinson in 1950, Annie lived on in this house. Doris lived with her for many years, attending school from here and working in the store and Post Office operated by Tom Bell. At times, Annie had a few rooms rented, to students, teachers and usually the student

minister in the summer months. In 1960 some of the property was sold to the Edson School Division for a playground area for the Evansview School. Later the balance of the land was sub-divided into lots which sold at the time for an average of one thousand dollars each. In 1973 Annie Hutchinson entered the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Stony Plain and here she is residing at the age of ninety-eight.

Mrs. Hazel Fausak purchased Mrs. Hutchinson's home; and although it has been renovated, the house raised and a cement basement put under it, it remains as one of Evansburg's first buildings.

Hutchinson, Dr. Aleck

by Edna Hadley

Aleck Hutchinson's early life is included in the family history under Hutchinson, Thomas F.

The following is taken from a Memento to honor his retirement from the Horticulture Research Institute of Ontario, Vineland Station, in March 1979 and by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, University of Guelph and Agriculture Canada, Vineland Station.

"Aleck's love for plants and growing of fruit was obvious at an early age. At nineteen he went to work for a summer at Boughen's Nursery in central Manitoba where he learned much about propagation and grafting and received a monthly salary of ten dollars. At the age of twenty-four, he took teacher training at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, and later taught school in the Edson School Division, both before and after serving as a radar instructor and mechanic in the RCAF in England.

After his return from overseas in 1946, he enrolled at the University of Alberta and obtained both his BSC and MSC (1952) at that institution. During this time he married Doreen Croft of Hamilton, Ontario. For the next three years he

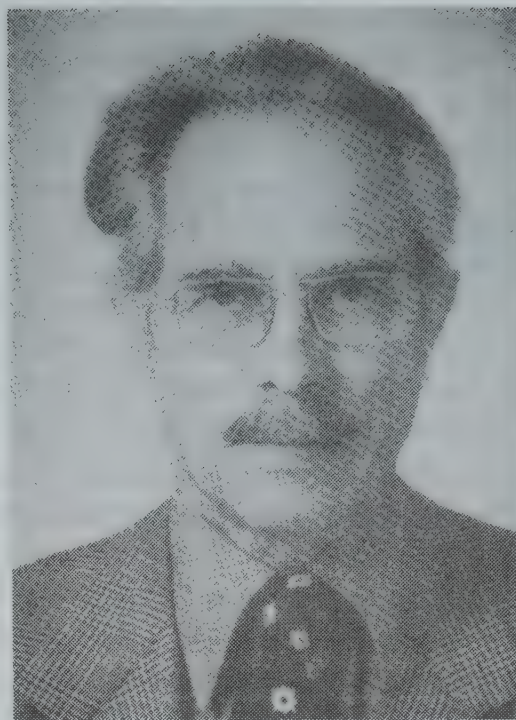
worked at the Canada Experimental Station at Morden, Manitoba, on various aspects of propagation, clonal rootstocks and breeding hardy fruits. In 1955, he began studies at Macdonald College and McGill University on rootstock physiology and received his PhD degree in 1958. He joined Vineland Station staff in August of 1958. His research at the Institute was continuously related to propagation and use of fruit tree rootstocks, particularly tree-size controlling types. In recent years, his studies placed major emphasis on apple orchard systems necessary for these rootstocks to be used effectively and efficiently in practical orcharding. His work in this area has been highly influential in the wide and general acceptance of the modern use of the small tree, high density orchards now popular in Ontario. He reported internationally on his findings: in Europe and the U.S., as well as in Canada.

In 1974 the International Dwarf Fruit Tree Association recognized his great contributions by awarding him a certification of "exceptional leadership and service" in developing compact fruit trees. They recognized his service again upon his retirement.

Aleck also found time to be active in the local United Church where he served as an Elder and Superintendent of Sunday School for many years.

He and his wife Doreen have raised five children at Vineland, two of whom have distinguished themselves as Ontario scholars. Dave is a computer consultant. He and his wife Gail live in Ottawa. Don is in management with General Motors. He and his wife Bonnie live in St. Catherines. Neil is an M.D. in Toronto. Anne lives in Kemptville and raises prize winning Springer Spaniels. (In 1981 her dog won the Canadian Championship). Wanda is in her second year at the University of Western Ontario in London.

For their retirement, Aleck and Doreen have a small farm at Vineland Station on which they grow a variety of fruits commercially. Aleck also acts as a consultant for the Dwarf Tree Association. Doreen



Dr. Aleck Hutchinson

is involved in social work and recently received an award from the Government of Ontario for her efforts."

Albert Shelton

by Dorothy

In 1924 Evansburg was a neat company town on the west bank of the Pembina River. It was a thriving community with its coal mine operated by the North American Collieries, its sawmills, and surrounding farms. The streets were paved with cinders, hard-packed, dustless and dry in inclement weather. The buildings, painted and well-maintained, consisted of the hotel and stores, (Macphee's and Purin's), the church (United) and the school, the community hall and skating rink and the miners' houses row on row.

Constable Albert Shelton brought his family here that year to open the first Alberta Provincial Police detachment in the community. Previously he had worked out of Lac Ste. Anne, covering not only the Evansburg-Junkins area, but east to Stony Plain. Sometimes he rode miles in sub-zero weather on his horse, Billy, only to find a family quarrel amicably resolved, or the mash of a suspected still fed to the pigs. In those days there was no "back-up" to call

in, and more than once Constable Shelton brought in his man alone, a murderer, or someone bush-crazy from living by himself. The papers made something of one of them, the murder at Rocky Rapids. His most harrowing experience, however, was dragging a man from a burning straw stack, only to find the chap had shot himself some time before.

Our new home, in Evansburg, was the "Raymond" house, at the upper end of main street, across the tracks that brought coal cars to the mine. It was a well-constructed place on six wooded acres, with the Bjornstads and the Bartoffs for our neighbors. Now, our father had a model T-Ford, but would have preferred his horse, perhaps, that winter night he was on Wabamun Lake, answering a complaint of illegal fishing. He was caught in a blizzard. The chained back wheels churned holes in the ice while he was trying to extricate himself from drifting snow. Then, maybe, he thought of the easier life he had spent as a policeman back in England, or even as a C.N.R. section foreman at Fulstow, next stop west of Carrot Creek. Whatever he thought, he never regretted that he had come to Canada in 1912. His family followed. They had two children then, Kathleen and Clifford. Later Dorothy was born.

He was an outdoor man; his garden a hobby, trap-shooting his recreation. In season he hunted ducks. He liked dogs, and trained them for the forces, a bloodhound to track; an Alsatian to guard; and another one called Kim. In his latter years, the A.P.P. being disbanded, he worked for the Alberta Government and then as a commissionaire. During the war he was with the Edmonton 49th Reserve, earning the rank of sergeant. He continued to hunt alone, and at seventy years of age got his last elk in the Wolf Creek area. He retired to Victoria, B.C. where his wife died in 1974, and he followed in 1976.

His daughters live in Victoria and his son in Courtenay. They, too, have memories of Evansburg, pleasant memories of friends, and of those who served the community. There was Harry Fisher, principal of the school, and Alec Stockwell,



Constable Albert Shelton.

a popular teacher, Reverend Simpson and Dr. Elliott. There was Norman Willerton who drove the milk van for Caudle's farm. Remember how he would say, "Come on" to his horse, and not "Gid-ap" as Canadians do? Our photographer was Mr. Yonemura. Then there was the genial butcher, Mr. Fitzsimmons, next door to Macphee's, and Billy Goodwin, the station master. Mine managers were Messrs. Narrowway and Howden, and there was Fred Elsie, the bustling proprietor of the Evansburg Hotel, manager of a variety store, and postmaster.

So much to do . . . for the boys a wiener roast, and potatoes baked in the smouldering coals at the base of the slag heap called "the dump", a mountain of waste from the mine. There was hiking and movies, skating and parties, the bob-sled rides on Mitchell's hill, and swimming in the rivers. Evansburg was a sports loving town. There was hockey and baseball and soccer - five "men" to a side. Dominion Day brought crowds to the playground.

Some things recalled . . . Hallowe'en and the "big" boys who dismantled the drayman's wagon

and then reassembled it astride the ridge pole of the school; the half day holiday until it was brought down.

There was the day Moose Munroe's house burned down when a "smudge pail" at the door to drive away mosquitos, flared up and set fire to the eaves.

I remember harvesting mangels on a chilly day, and cutting the tops - for ten cents an hour.

So many friends . . . so many remembered . . . the Youngs and Mazeppas, Mitchells and Blasius, MacDiarmids and Kerrs, the Dunnigans and Mullins, Greaves and Stricklands . . . Fitzsimmons.

So many times we have heard - "Do you remember . . . Hilda Bjornstad . . . Marion Russell . . . Lillian Blasius . . . Claud Bartoff . . . Tom Young?"

So many more.

Henry and Annie Dewald

by Helen Skoreyko

Henry Dewald came from a family of ten children. He was born Dec. 1st, 1897 in Saratos, Russia, to Philip and Marie Dewald. The family left Russia and arrived in New York, April 5th, 1901. From there they went to Chicago in 1902 and then to western Kansas in 1904. Here they remained until 1906 when they moved to Finney County to build a sod house on a homestead near the small town of Lydia, Kansas. The Dewalds grain farmed the homestead for six years. In 1912 they moved on to Garden City, Kansas where for two years they operated a sugar beet farm.

On New Years Day, 1914 the family left Kansas and the U.S.A. to move to Edmonton and to a farm near Spruce Grove. In the spring of 1915 Philip purchased a farm in the Mewassin District. Henry helped his father clear the homestead by hand and farmed with his father until the age of twenty-one years.

In was now time for Henry to find his own place in the world so for the next five years he worked as a laborer on various farms.

On May 31st, 1925, Henry married Annie Janiszewski. Until the fall of that year Henry and Annie resided in Keephills. Then they established a home in Evansburg. For the next few years Henry was employed as a sawyer at a sawmill owned by Mr. McCormick. There was a period of time he worked at the Evansburg mine. He was then hired by the Gillespie Grain Co. to operate the grain elevator in Evansburg. He remained with this company until the year, 1939. During this period he was in other businesses also. He was a dealer for Fairbanks Morse Co. Ltd., Woodland Dairies Ltd., Rumley Tractor Co., and British American Oil Co. Bulk Agent. He also owned and operated a grain crusher.

Henry loved sports and was always ready to take an active part in coaching soft ball or base ball. Music was an important part of his life. He played the violin and piano and had his own orchestra. For many years they provided music for dances in Evansburg and surrounding districts. His orchestra consisted of his wife Annie on violin and mandolin, John Bercowski, violin, John Palkowski drums, Stanley Janiszewski drums, Richie Sylvester, drums, guitar and singer, Peter Horne, violin, Fred Horz, banjo and Alex McCullough guitar and singer, as well as other interested local musicians. As his children grew older he was joined by his daughter Irene on the piano and Henry, Jr. with the violin.

In 1939 Henry purchased a sawmill which he operated throughout the war years in the Wildwood, Drayton Valley and Evansburg districts. His company employed many of the local residents. Two young men come to mind who were almost as close as members of his family. Harold Raypold and Richie Sylvester contributed much to the success of the business.

Mrs. Dewald was always available as alternate cook whenever the regular cook was ill or absent. Daughter, Irene looked after the book keeping and

managed the lumber camp office. Later these duties were taken over by daughter, Helen. Henry Jr. was one of the better mill workers. His ability to perform many duties helped. He not only worked in the mill but was able to drive a truck and deliver the lumber to market. During the 1940's Henry owned caterpillars and equipment and did land clearing for many of the farmers. He also worked on road building and construction work.

In the fall of 1946 Henry and Annie left Evansburg to take up residence in Edmonton. Henry continued the mill operation in Evansburg until 1950. On Feb. 2nd, 1952 the family moved to Creston, B.C. where they owned and operated a motel. This business was sold in 1958. Henry and Annie then purchased an eight acre orchard where they enjoyed fruit farming and semi retirement.

Henry Dewald passed away Sept. 2nd, 1975 just three months after celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

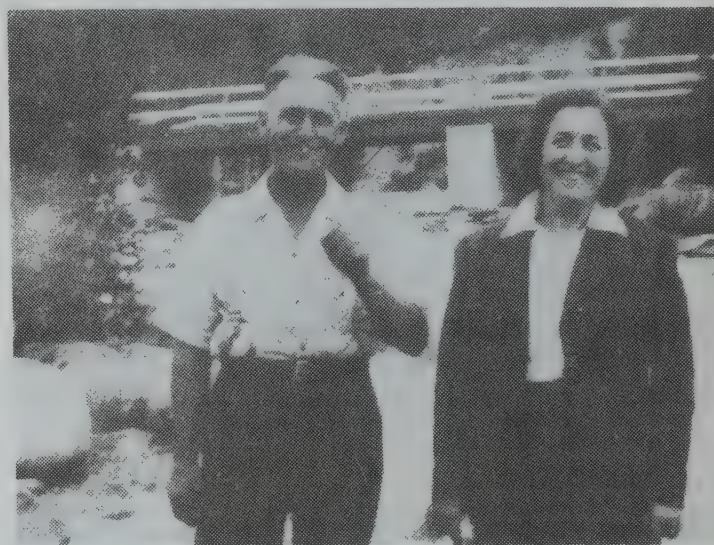
Annie (Janiszewski) Dewald came from a family of seven children. She was born, Dec. 31st, 1903 in Mikolajowie, Russia. She lived her first few years with her mother's sister, Aunt Louise in Styr, Poland, a small village now located in Austria.

She began her early education with tutors at the age of three. She studied foreign languages becoming proficient in Polish, English, French, German, Russian and Ukrainian and like her husband, who also spoke a number of languages, she was able to translate for local residents requiring medical assistance, or in appearances before the courts.

In 1907 Annie's father immigrated to Canada working his way across the country to Entwistle, at that time the end of the G.T.P. line. The eldest sons, Joe and Stanley, soon followed and in 1913, Annie with her mother and the remaining family, left for Canada. After four weeks of travel they arrived in Evansburg to settle on a farm south of the town. This farm is presently owned and operated by Tony, Julian, Tom and Chesel Janiszewski. Their first home was a log cabin.



Gillespie Grain Co. Evansburg, B.A. Bulk Station, 1930.



Henry and Annie Dewald, 1940.



Henry Dewald Jr. Land Clearing, 1940.

Annie continued her studies in Evansburg. She took a keen interest in music and very special to her were the violin lessons she took from Annie Laschinsky. She soon became an accomplished violin and mandolin player. The music studies enabled her to help her husband in the orchestra which provided music for the local dances.

Very often and fondly she would speak of her many friends and acquaintances developed over the

years in Evansburg. To her, these were cherished memories.

Many still remember her creative ability as a professional seamstress. She could produce the most beautiful crocheted or knitted garments and items, or design floral arrangements from crepe and tissue paper. How well her family still remember collecting jam cans so that mother would cut them in such a way as to create an attractive floral centre piece. She was always a hard worker. She was an expert in wall paper hanging, decorating, designing and making costumes or sewing draperies and curtains. Truly she was an accomplished seamstress and always ready to help others.

To Annie and Henry eight children were born, Irene, Henry, Helen, John, Lucille, Bill, Kenneth and Richard.

Annie Dewald passed away, March 10th, 1978.

Powlyna Family

Peter Powlyna and Kataryna Swystun were married in Evansburg January 25, 1925.

They took up residence in Evansburg and had five daughters, who were all raised and educated here. Mary and Annie (twins), Jenny, Rose and Katie.

Peter Powlyna worked in the coal mines until they closed down; then did odd jobs at anything he could get. During the war, he worked for awhile for the Department of Highways.

In 1947, Mrs. Powlyna started a small grocery store in her front room. The store was later moved to the main street intersection, where the business is still operated by daughter, Annie Ledinski. Mr. & Mrs. Powlyna celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1975.

Peter Powlyna passed away December 28, 1976. Kataryna Powlyna passed away July 26, 1979.



Mr. and Mrs. Peter Powlyna

The Paul Schmidge

Paul Schmidge and his wife, Katy, came in the mid 1920s and settled in Evansburg, where he obtained employment in the mine. Part of the time they lived in Arnupville and part of the time they lived in one of the two-storey houses on the alley.

They had two sons, Heinz and George.

The family moved to south of Wildwood for many years and later to Entwistle. George became ill and was hospitalized. In 1956, Heinz became employed by the Department of Highways.

Paul and Katy lived the last few years of their lives in an apartment and then in a nursing home in Edmonton.



Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schmidge



Heinz Schmidge



George Schmidge

Heinz continues to work for Alberta Transportation. He lives in his own house in Evansburg.

The Drongal Family

Alex Drongal married Pearl Pauly, a widow with a young son, in 1920 in the Ukraine. He wanted to make a new life in Canada with his family, as he had read and heard that there were plenty of jobs and lots of land. He immigrated to Canada in 1926, followed by his wife Pearl, stepson Alex and daughter Mary in 1927.

After his arrival in Canada his first job was at Swanson's Sawmill in Wildwood, where he worked for about eight months.



Alex Drongal and R. Sylvester.

The family first lived across the tracks in Evansburg, which was called Arnupville and they later moved into the town of Evansburg.

He later worked for the C.N.R. in Magnolia for two years, before being laid off. He then went to work in the Evansburg Coal Mine, where he worked for one year, and then was hired again by the C.N.R. He worked for the C.N.R. until his death April 4, 1936 at the age of forty-seven years.

Besides his stepson, Alex Pauly, born in 1915, a daughter Mary was born in 1922. The Drongals had three more children born in Canada, Michael born in 1928 and twin daughters Anne and Katherine born in 1930.

Alex Pauly played a big part in the family's survival after Mr. Drongal passed away. He went out to work at many jobs especially in the sawmills of the area. He rode the freight trains many times to find work at the West Coast and to return home for visits to do things that had to be done at home.

Mary also went to work at an early age.

After the children married and left home, Pearl Drongal married Stanley Repac, a C.N.R. labourer, in 1949. He died in 1968. She lived in Evansburg until 1975, after which she went into a Senior Citizens' Home in Edmonton. She is still living there at the age of ninety-four years.

Her son Alex Pauly and daughter Mary Werenka live in Vancouver, B.C. Son Michael lived in Tofield, Alberta until his death July 30, 1981. Daughter Anne Gieblhaus lives in Red Deer, Alberta and Katherine Ostertag lives in Buck Lake, Alberta.

The A.F. Chisholms

by Eion Chisholm

Our history in Canada did not originate in the Evansburg district. It did however, originate in the Pembina River Valley. Dad came to Edmonton in the spring of 1909 along with six other medical students from Edinburgh, Scotland, seeking land in



Eion Chisholm, Margaret Chisholm, and Carl Bjornstad.



Dr. and Mrs. Chisholm

the Peace River area. In Edmonton they acquired saddle horses and headed north west by way of Lac St. Anne. When they arrived in the Pembina River valley north east of Sangudo, they liked what they saw and settled on seven adjoining homesteads. All went well. They were clearing land, had several horses, and had a sawmill going when World War I broke out in 1914. All had been members of the R.O.T.C. at university and six of the seven went back to join up. One was left behind to look after their interests. He soon turned the horses loose and went back. It was agreed that whoever came back to Canada would share the assets. Dad was the only one to return of the seven - three were killed in action, one went to Australia, two to South Africa and Dad came back to Sangudo in 1918. Before coming back he had married and his new bride, my mother, followed him.

Mother often talked of her first impressions. Dad met her in Sangudo and drove her to the homestead with a team and wagon bouncing over the corduroy

roads. It was at Sangudo that I was born. Following the 1919-20 winter they decided that farming was not everything it was supposed to be, and that medicine was not so bad. They returned to Edinburgh where my late sister Margaret was born. Dad returned to Canada after graduating from the Edinburgh School of Medicine. He went back to Sangudo and after a short stint in Irricana, came to Evansburg as the mine doctor in 1927. As far as I can recall, he was the only medical man between Wabamun on the east and Edson on the west. His calls were made in almost every type of conveyance - on foot, by team and wagon, or sleigh, automobile, railway hand car and even on the caboose of a passing freight. On more than one occasion he would arrange with Bill Goodwin, the station master, to stop a freight and deliver him to MacKay or Niton Junction where he would be met by team and wagon to go and tend some ailing individual.

Besides his work at the mine and in Evansburg and Entwistle, many of his cases were bush accidents as lumbering was a major enterprise in Park Court to the north, Wildwood and MacKay to the west and Reno and Drayton Valley to the south. Many of these cases required hospitalization which meant a trip to Edmonton over roads which bore no resemblance to our present-day highways. Our car was also the ambulance in those days. Many in the district helped drive on those trips, foremost was probably Bill Barwise, Doug Young and then myself.

Much credit should be given to those nurses and lay nurses in the district who did such a great service by taking care of maternity cases in their homes.

Dad was active in community affairs and enjoyed nothing more than sitting down at the piano with a drink of scotch and playing for a sing song.

In 1947 he retired to the west coast but after a year or so returned to Alberta and practised in Stony Plain until he passed away in 1951. Mother moved to Edmonton for a number of years and then came to Chinook Nursing Home in Calgary. Here she passed away in her eighty ninth year.



Dr. and Mrs. Chisholm with Donna Jean.

Margaret married Neil McLean from Entwistle in 1949. They had two children, Allistair and Kathy. Allistair is in the Lethbridge area in the automobile business. Kathy is married to John Doyle. They farm west of Olds with their family, David and Carol. Margaret passed away in 1953 in the polio epidemic.

After three years in the R.C.M. Police and a stint in the navy, I went back and studied agriculture at the U. of A. After graduation I was employed by the Alberta government as District Agriculturist in Red Deer and Rocky Mountain House. In 1953 I went to work for Western Stockgrowers in Calgary. Following this, I went into commercial cattle feeding and formed Western Feedlots with whom I am still associated. I married Thelma Frost from Sydney, N.S. in 1942. We have two daughters, Donna and Heather. Donna married Don Carlyle and they live west of Blackfalds with their two daughters, Krista and Kisa. Donna also operates and owns three maternity shops - two in Edmonton and one in Red Deer under the name Donna J. Maternity Fashions. Heather is married to Angus Bonnycastle. They live in Calgary with their baby daughter Katrina. Heather still practices law in Calgary.

John Andison

by Peggy Mitchell (Andison)

John Andison, his wife Elizabeth, and daughter Peggy arrived in Evansburg September 1, 1927.

Mrs. Andison, with her daughter had come to Wabamun from Northumberland, England on June 3, 1927 to join her husband.

Conditions in Wabamun were not very good, especially coming from England. So, having obtained jobs in Evansburg, we decided to move.

What a move that was. We just had a few benches and a table and a couple of trunks. We had to hire a team of horses and a wagon, so it took one whole day to get to Evansburg.

Evansburg looked good after Wabamun and so we soon settled in, living in the first house in the first row in the new townsite.

Our neighbours were the Kitaguchis and we soon became friendly. Mrs. Kitaguchi did not speak much English and my mother (coming from the north of England) had a decided brogue so sometimes when they went to the tap for water things became pretty hilarious.

The winter of 1927 was very cold but we didn't seem to mind. In fact, Mom got quite a bit of teasing as she kept the doors open even on the coldest days.

My dad was originally from Edinburgh, Scotland, and as there were quite a few Scots in Evansburg, he soon felt at home.



Andison and Mitchell Clan

Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Andison, Peggy and Bob Mitchell, Bob Armour. Kiddies - Wayne and Douglas Mitchell.

The first time the fire whistle blew at the mine, Mom said "I'll bet that is a moose", but we soon found out differently.

The mine just worked in the winter, so Dad put in a garden which kept us in vegetables all year.

We did all our shopping at Macphees and Purins. Buying in bulk took a long time to get used to.

I decided to go back to school and had Mr. Greene for principal and completed Grade twelve.

Everyone was friendly. On Saturday nights (after the bar closed at ten) three or four couples (Mitchells, Greaves, Steeles and of course Mom and Dad) would take turns at having a get together and play records and dance. It was a fun time and did not cost anything but a lunch.

During the summer it was the 'in' thing to go swimming at the concretes. It was fun going down to the river, but coming back up was a different kettle of fish. The older ladies would have to be pushed and pulled to the top and they would declare, "never again". But next day back we all went. Being as no one was very affluent, the bathing suits were, to say the least - original. The wee ones went without. The older children managed to scrape together some kind of suit, but ladies - petticoats or old dresses which when being soaked would float around the wearer like a tent. The men were in various stages of underwear - shorts and shirts or anything that did not flaunt the law. It was great. Everyone was in the same boat. We would stay there all day.

We had wonderful dances in the hall to which everyone went. Sometimes we would have an orchestra from Edmonton, such as the "Martins".

In 1928 - just before Christmas, myself and a boy named Johnson contracted scarlet fever. My mother and I were quarantined for six weeks. I had a brand new dress for the New Year's Dance. When the whistles blew at twelve o'clock we both cried, me for not being able to go to the dance, and Mom being homesick for England.

The mine closed and Mom and Dad moved back to Wabamun. From there they moved to Luscar and Mom managed the Hotel.

Dad was not well and they moved to Vancouver Island. He passed away in 1950. Mom came back to Luscar - I had married Bob Mitchell and lived in Luscar by then.

After a few years, Mom married Donald Steele who had come to Evansburg a year or two before us.

After fifteen happy years in East Coulee, Donald died and Mom was left alone again.

She moved to Edmonton and passed away February 1, 1975 at the age of eighty-one.

My husband and I live in Edmonton and have one son in the city and a son and daughter in Sherwood Park.

Evansburg was a happy time. We will always remember it.

Leroy and Ellen Conley

by Ellen Sherry

My father LeRoy Conley was born in Leonardville, Deer Island, New Brunswick, in 1887. My mother Ellen Jorgenson was born in Breed, Wisconsin, U.S.A. in 1888. They were married in October, 1910.

They arrived in Evansburg in November 1927 with their three children, Nellie, Ellen and Woodrow. My father worked in the coal mine until it closed in 1936.

In the summer when the mine was slack we spent long sunny days picking berries or at the river fishing and picnicking. My early memories are of winter fun at the open air skating rink or sleigh riding on the hills around the village or in the summer at the old swimming hole on the Pembina River.



Leroy and Ellen Conley.



Margaret and Woodrow Conley with their children. Also Mrs. Conley, Nellie Ohlson, Ellen Sherry.

In those days the chief link with Edmonton was the railroad. All goods were brought in by train and drayed by team to the various businesses. One of the favorite walks of a Sunday afternoon was to the railroad station to see who got off the train from Edmonton. Another eagerly awaited twice yearly event was the arrival of the Eaton's and Simpson's catalogues. These were thoroughly perused by young and old alike.

With the closure of the mine my father worked away from home in the winters for several years but

finally settled on a small holding on the edge of Evansburg. He kept chickens, cows, pigs and horses and raised a big garden. In the winter he hauled coal with a team of horses from a mine east of Entwistle for the few families still living in Evansburg. He also hauled water from the river summer and winter for his own livestock and also for those in the village who had no well.

My mother also worked hard. When the mine closed there was no more electricity. Light was from coal oil lamps which had to be cleaned and filled every day. Clothes were washed on a washboard in water heated on a coal and wood stove. Summer days were an endless round of eggs to be cleaned and sorted, butter to be churned, vegetables and berries to be preserved.

My father and mother lived in Evansburg until their death - my father in 1949 at the age of sixty-one and my mother in 1978 at the age of eighty-nine.

Woodrow joined the army in 1942 and served overseas in Italy and Holland. He returned home at the end of the war but joined up again in 1950. He was wounded in training and was discharged in 1951. Woodrow married Margaret Williamson in 1951. They have six children - Peggy, Kenneth, Judy, Dorothy, Wendy and Bruce. They lived in Edmonton until 1981 when he and Margaret took up residence in Evansburg.

Nellie married Chris Ohlson in 1937 and they now live in Vancouver. They have one daughter, Myrna.

I married James Sherry in 1949 and live in Evansburg.

Francis and Mary Purcell

by Laurine Purcell

Francis and Mary Purcell migrated from Scotland to Taber, Alberta, in 1910. In 1927 they moved to Evansburg where he was employed at the Evansburg mine as a mechanical engineer.

They had three sons - Francis, Thomas and Robert and one daughter, Allison. Robert and Allison went to school in Evansburg.

Francis married Mary Forbes from Scotland and had one daughter Frances while they lived in Evansburg. A son Forbes was born after they returned to Scotland.

Thomas married Hedwig Langer of Evansburg. They moved to Drumheller where they lived for many years and then moved to Victoria. They have two daughters, Joan and Marion.

Robert (Bob) married Laurine Edmonds of the Styal District. Their daughter, Roberta, was born in Evansburg. Bob hauled the mail from the station for some time and for several years he and his brother Frank operated a trucking business. In 1939 Bob joined the Army Division of Royal Canadian Engineers. He took training in Edmonton and went overseas with the First Canadian Battalion in 1940. He saw service in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany and returned in August 1945.

Allison married Fred (Chick) Colburn of Drumheller. After Chick was discharged from the services, they lived in Evansburg for many years. Chick worked in Macphee's store. They had one son Frank.

The Purcells were active members of the United Church in Evansburg. Allison was organist for many years.

Mr. Purcell Sr. died in 1949 and is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

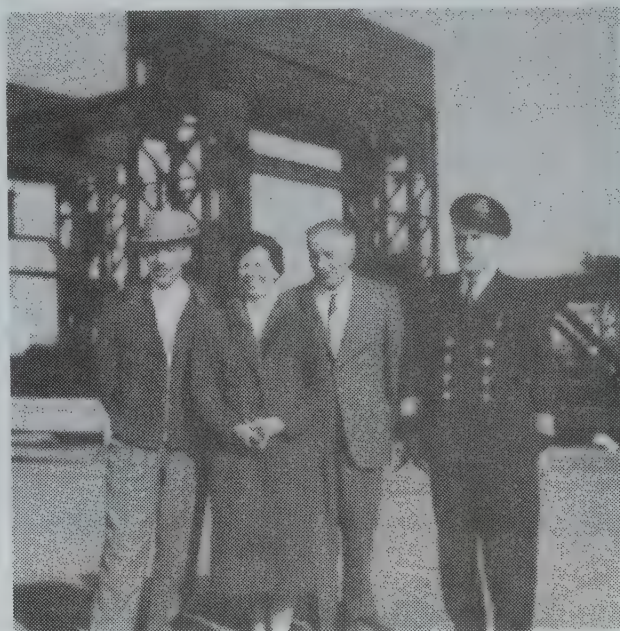
Mrs. Purcell, Allison, Chick and Frank moved to Victoria in 1954. There both Mrs. Purcell and Chick Colburn passed away. Allison still makes her home in Victoria.

Frank Purcell Jr. and Mary later moved from Scotland to Victoria where they both passed away.

Tom died in Victoria in 1981. Hedwig still makes her home there.



Mr. and Mrs. Frank Purcell Sr., with daughter Allison and son Bob.



Bob and Allison, Tom and Frank Purcell 1960.



Allison and Chick Colburn and son Frankie.

Bob and Laurine presently live in Riviere Qui Barre, Alberta. They are on an acreage which is part of their daughter Roberta's farm. They have a second daughter, Maureen, born after they left Evansburg.

Webb Family

by Vera (Webb) Robinson

My father and mother, Tom and Ada Webb, I and my brother Allen came to Evansburg in 1928 when I was in grade two. We lived in one of the company houses in town for sometime. Then Dad bought a farm one and one half miles west of Evansburg, right off the highway and close to Styal. Walking to school in summer was fine but in the winter it was very hard. Dad worked in the mine on the afternoon shift. I liked to help water the animals and milk the cows before I went to school. Allen was too young at the time to help. We lived on the next farm to Mazeppas. I liked to go to their home where I learned to like Ukrainian food.

In the summer holidays and at week ends I would have some of my friends to stay and I feel they enjoyed being in the country. Helen (Olson) Young was one of my friends and to this day she is like a sister to me.

One winter Dad hired a man to do the chores. He drove Allen and me to and from school in a cutter half full of hay, and some hot bricks to keep us warm. He stayed with us for quite sometime.

I spent the primary years at the Evansburg School with Dr. T. D. Baker as my teacher until grade eight. Then in high school, Mr. Green was my teacher.

I remember going swimming in the Pembina River. I also remember the huge slack dumps at the mine.

We moved to Aldergrove, British Columbia where I had to make new friends in high school. However my heart will always be at the farm in Evansburg.

My mother passed away in Vancouver in 1969 and my father in 1978.

Tuke Family

by Bill Tuke

Coal brought Bob Tuke, his wife Annie, daughter Ruth, and sons Bill and Bob Jr. to Evansburg in 1928. They travelled from Calgary where Bob had been employed as an accountant in a coal mine. They lived in Evansburg until 1936 when they bought the quarter section NW of Evansburg in the Lobstick River Valley. It took ten days to move their house from Evansburg with a stump puller and team of horses into the valley where it is still standing and is Bill's current address.

Bill started farming with horses and used that land as the base of his present operation. He milked cows and continued to do so until 1965 when he sold his dairy herd and started a cow-calf operation.

In the early days Bill worked on the farm while his father Bob worked as secretary for the Municipal District and then in the mine in Drumheller. Bob Sr. died in 1951. Bill and his mother Annie continued to farm together until she died in 1959. Bob Tuke Jr. (1920-1969) joined the Air Force, married and had four children; Ray, Robin, Billy and Susan. He is survived by his wife Ida and children who currently reside near Ottawa.

Ruth Tuke left home at eighteen to study to become a Registered Nurse. She met Bob Barry and they married. They had nine children; Don, Maureen (Germescheid), Judy (Vallee), Eileen (Jones), Bob Jr., Rita, Teresa, Trudy and Bill. Ruth has since remarried Dick Anderson, a long standing resident of the Magnolia area. Together they now share seventeen children and seventeen grandchildren.

Bill, Bob and Ruth all attended school in Evansburg from grades 1-12 and were students of the rookie teacher Tom Baker.

The road to Holly Springs, Gowanbrae area was

through Tuke's quarter. Vernon West also lived on the quarter and the road went by his house, across the Lobstick River and north to Rheins, Kremeniuks, Jaschkes and McCormicks. There were one or two winter nights when the teams were spotted going home unguided.

Bill is presently farming with nephew Don Barry and Don's wife Margaret.

Don Barry is currently vice-principal of Evansview School. Maureen Gernscheid is teaching Kindergarten in Wildwood while her husband Greg teaches at Evansview School.

Tom and Jessie Baker

by Shauna Cox

Tom Baker came from Scotland to Evansburg in 1929 to his first teaching position.

He boarded first with Mr. and Mrs. Hodgkinson, where his brother, Jim, who worked in the mine, also stayed. Later he boarded with the MacDiarmid family.

In those days he enjoyed hiking and skiing. He was a member of a group of avid skiers who skied on the Pembina and Lobstick hills.

He organized a Boy Scout troop in Evansburg. During this time the Scouts, along with the Girl Guides, Brownies and Wolf Cubs, were instrumental in having the Scout Hall built. This building is still in use as the Pembina Lobstick Historical Society Museum.

In 1936, he married Jessie MacDiarmid.

In 1937 they moved from Evansburg to Millet, where he taught school in Millet and then Leduc before moving to Edmonton in about 1940. He taught school in the Public School System in Edmonton until becoming Deputy Superintendent of the Edmonton Public School Board in 1953. He remained in Administration until his retirement in 1972.



Tom Baker and Jessie MacDiarmid in early 1930's



Dr. and Mrs. T. Baker.

He was instrumental in having the school established into the Glenrose Hospital and was Chairman of the Board of the Glenrose Hospital from 1963 to 1975.

He was an active worker for the Canadian Cancer Society and was Chairman of the Provincial Cancer Hospitals Board and the W.W. Cross Cancer Clinic for many years.

In October 1981, the Cancer Clinic for Southern Alberta was named the Tom Baker Cancer Clinic in recognition of his many efforts toward a cure for cancer.

Tom and Jessie moved back to Evansburg at the time of his retirement and live on the MacDiarmid farm.

They have two children, a son Jim and a daughter, Shauna.

Charley and Annabel Taylor

by Edna Hadley

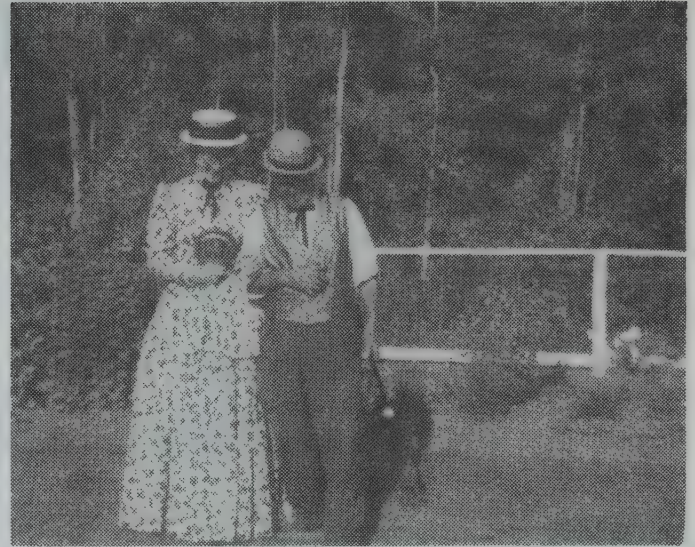
(as written at the time of Charley's passing in 1977)

Charley was born in Lingin, England in 1893 and came to Canada in 1912. He lived in the Strathclair District in Manitoba where he worked as a farm labourer. In 1915, he went overseas with the 28th Canadians, 2nd Division. He served in France and Belgium in engagements at Ypres, the Somme, Vimy Ridge, Arran and the Cambrai Push. Following the end of hostilities, Charley served in the Army of Occupation in Bonn, Germany, for one year.

In 1919, Charley returned to Manitoba where he resumed farming. In 1928, he came west to Killam, Alberta, and then to the Evansburg District in 1929. He filed on a homestead in the Holly Springs District. He worked for J.W.R. McCormick's lumber and saw mills in the winter months and on the McCormick farm in the summer months. He met and married Annabell Kimball in 1932, and here



Charlie Taylor with Canadian champion trout 8 lbs. 14 oz., 1959.



Charlie and Annabell Taylor, Centennial dress.

their one son, Victor, was born. Later Charley was foreman in Eccles' mill in the same area. As the work in the sawmill was winter work only, he worked for the Department of Highways in the summer months. At one time, he was weed inspector, too.

In 1942, Charley left to rejoin the Canadian Army. He served in the 30th Company of Veteran's Guards of Canada at Lethbridge and Medicine Hat from 1942 to 1944.

Prior to the Second World War and following it, Charley worked for the Department of Highways. He first assisted in road construction on the Drayton Valley Highway. He was later a maintenance man. His area extended from Carvel Corner to the Jasper Park Gates, and included the Coal Branch roads.

Charley retired at the age of sixty years in 1953, and continued to live a varied and interesting life. He was a Charter member of the Royal Canadian Legion at Evansburg. Prior to the organization of the Evansburg Branch, he was a member of the Wildwood Branch. Charley served as Sergeant-at-Arms for over thirty years.

In 1967, he was presented with the Centennial Medal for outstanding service to his country and community. Throughout his life, Charley was a keen sportsman, participating in soccer in England



Charlie Taylor with Victor.

in his young days. He avidly followed all sports on T.V. and radio, especially hockey and football. He was an ardent curler and could always be seen with a group of young boys at every local bonspiel. He was a keen fisherman, both winter and summer. In 1960 Charley won the All Canadian Champion Award for the largest rainbow trout.

Charley and Annabell were devoted to gardening and raising flowers. Charley loved flowers and won many prizes at Agricultural Fairs. Many a bouquet of flowers was sent to a sick friend in hospital.

In his retirement years, he served as communications officer between the Department of Veteran's Affairs and veterans in need of assistance. For quieter and more restful recreation, he did varied handicrafts. He hooked rugs and made bargello bags in the daytime. He was an eager Bingo player in the evenings.

Charley passed away August 19, 1977 and is buried in the Soldier's Plot in Evansburg Cemetery. With his passing, Evansburg lost an interesting and colorful character, a good friend and neighbor to everyone.

Annabell, always fond of the outdoors, loves fishing and hunting, and is a licensed taxidermist. She works with the Edson Health Unit, and has done so since 1957. She is a Charter Member and a Life Member of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the

Canadian Legion, and has held the position of Sergeant-at-Arms for many years. She was projectionist at the local theatre when it was in operation from 1956 to 1970. At the present time, Annabell is an instructor in pottery, basketweaving and other crafts. She is a faithful worker for the Canadian Legion and the Ladies' Auxiliary. In 1974, she was presented with the Citizen of the Year Award.

Thomas P. and Ida M. Bell and Family

by Ruth Foster

If I remember correctly, the Bell family arrived in Evansburg early in the spring of 1931. There was snow on the ground.

We had driven from Medicine Hat in our Whippet car with a few belongings and the family cat, Mike. The drive from Edmonton was frightening. In those days the roads were not paved or even gravelled. We had to be pulled up the Wabamun hill by a team of horses.

My father took over the business of a general store and confectionery. This also included the post office and telephone exchange which he purchased from Mr. Fred Elsie. The store was in the name of I. M. Bell.

The only other means of transportation was the railroad. This was the way the mail was brought to



Ruth Bell



Lorna Bell

Evansburg. My father would get up to meet the mail wagon - it always seemed to be in the middle of the night - when mail was delivered to the post office. He sorted it before returning home for a couple of hours of sleep.

My sister and I attended Evansburg school. Mr. T. D. Baker was our teacher in the Elementary School and Mr. C. D. Kelly was the teacher in the High School.

For some time, my father was the agent for the Greyhound Bus. He also was a police magistrate for many years.

After retiring from the Post Office, he still maintained the store until it was destroyed by fire in 1956.

After the fire, he built a small store on the corner of the lot where his house was (where the Dieckmann Building now is). This was also the Greyhound Bus stop. He continued there in business and helped to take care of his invalid wife until the time of his death. Mr. Thomas Paterson Bell passed away April 1st., 1961 at the age of eighty-two.

Mrs. Bell, who was ill for many years, died July 15, 1963.

They are both buried in Westlawn Cemetery in West Edmonton.

They had two daughters, Ruth and Lorna. Ruth, now Mrs. Douglas Foster, and her husband have one son Earl. He and his wife Rose Mary live in Edmonton. They are both teachers.

The younger daughter Lorna, now Mrs. Mathew Sydowski, and her husband reside in Rockford, Illinois. Her daughter Leslie Gibbs and her husband live in Virginia Beach, West Virginia, with their two sons aged twelve years and two years.

Mr. Bell was a kindly man and was well respected in the community.

Jacob and Rose Horst

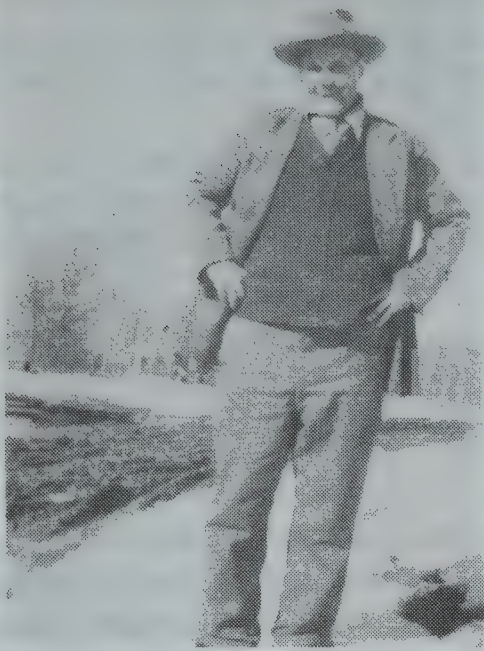
Jacob and Rose Horst and their children, five boys and three girls, immigrated to Canada from the United States around 1911. They were farmers and came to Canada looking for better farming conditions. They settled in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan. Another daughter was born there.

When living in Saskatchewan, their closest neighbors were about two miles away. The children went to school only in the winter time. They stayed home during the summer months to help on the farm.

They moved to Alberta in about 1928, and homesteaded north of Wildwood. About three years later they moved to Evansburg. They lived there for many years.



Mrs. Rose Horst.



Mr. Horst.

Rose passed away approximately thirty years ago. Jacob passed away about ten years later.

Their sons, Philip and John, are deceased. Carl, Henry and Willie are all retired now. Carl resides in Vermilion, Alberta, and Henry is in Drayton Valley, Alberta. Willie is in a Home at Oliver. Their only living daughter, Lydia, is in Vancouver. The other three girls are deceased.

The Rogans

In 1933, James Rogan with his wife and four children, Peggy, James, Jack and Mickey arrived in Evansburg.

Const. Jim Rogan was the R.C.M.P. in charge following Const. P.M. Christophers.

They lived in the building up at the top of the hill in Evansburg, a nine room house which was the official R.C.M.P. barracks.

The Rogan boys were a lively crew who were up to good old Irish tricks most of the time.

With the Bjornstad boys, they were the proud owners of an old model T with which they burned up the roads around town. Having no money, they

siphoned gas from the R.C.M.P. vehicle every night to keep their car running the following day. Mr. Rogan always complained about what a gas eater his car was.

Jack had a weasel trap line along Caudle's Creek and used Mazeppa's pony to make the trip along the trapline. Mike Mazeppa used to skin the weasels for him.

Mr. Baker taught Jim and Jack while they were here while Peggy's teachers were Mr. Greene and Mr. Page.

In the fall of 1937, they retired to Vancouver, B.C.

The three boys were in the armed services with Jack and Mickey serving overseas. Mickey was killed in action in France.

Jack and Jim are the only ones of the family alive in 1983.

Jack married Helen Fitzgerald (formerly of Entwistle) and they live in Victoria, where they have a comfortable little home and enjoy gardening.

Harry Moore Thorburn

Harry Thorburn was born February 15, 1879 in Stanley, N.B. of Scottish ancestry. He left New Brunswick in the early nineteen hundreds and came to Alberta to join two brothers who had preceded him west. He worked for some time in a silver mine in Silverton, BC. Later, he settled in the small town of Carbon, AB. Here, he probably worked on his brother Ross's ranch. Later, he owned and ran a billiard hall in Carbon. This burned to the ground September 4, 1921 despite efforts of a bucket brigade to put the fire out.

He married Ethel sometime in 1922. She died in childbirth a year later.

He then met and married Yvonne Marie Louise Dufresne, who was then working at the Carbon

Hotel. She was born May 15, 1899 at St. Agathe, Quebec of French ancestry.

Mr. and Mrs. Thorburn moved to Calgary where they owned a small confectionery store.

Daughter, Helena Mary, was born in 1924 in Calgary General Hospital. Later, they moved to Strathmore, Alberta, where they owned and operated the hotel. Daughter, Albina Julia May was born there in 1925.

In 1928, the family moved to Legal, Alberta. Mr. Thorburn managed the hotel there for a Mr. Fortin. In 1933, they bought the Evansburg Hotel for about five thousand dollars and the family moved to Evansburg. At the time, Evansburg had been a thriving coal mining town and the hotel was a busy place. Mr. Thorburn ran the beer parlour and Mrs. Thorburn, the dining room and rooms to rent. Meals were served in the dining room for forty cents, and that included soup, entree, vegetables, potatoes and a choice of desserts, and tea or coffee. Rooms rented at one dollar per night.

Helena, known as Lena, and May were busy going to school, helping at home, participating in sports, swimming in the Pembina River in summer and skating on it in the winter.

Mr. Thorburn attended the United Church in Evansburg when services were held, and Mrs. Thorburn and the girls attended St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church in Entwistle. The parish priest at the time was Father Joseph Sullivan.

Social activities were limited, but there were occasional parties with Dr. and Mrs. A. F. Chisholm, Mr. & Mrs. C. J. Macphee, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Bell, and Constable and Mrs. Rogan (R.C.M.P.).

For New Year's Eve there was always a gala dance at the Evansburg Hall. Movies were shown once a month when the itinerant movie man came to town. Sometimes it was too cold to show the movies in the big hall so they were shown at the United Church.



Evansburg Hotel business card.

Summer activities included occasional motor trips in a 1928 Buick to Seba Beach for an afternoon of swimming. Trips to Edmonton on gravel roads were infrequent - perhaps only two or three times a year. Every year the family travelled by car to Calgary for the Stampede, and to visit brothers Ross and Bill who lived in southern Alberta. Once in a while a brother would come to visit from New Brunswick and this was always a special time for the family. Mr. Thorburn had six brothers and two sisters. Travel in those days over any great distance was done mostly by train.

In 1934, the mine ceased to produce coal and many miners moved to Drumheller. Business at the hotel suffered and in 1939, the family lost their business and moved to a single family home. Times were hard for most of the community. The house, which had been a mine washhouse at one time, was moved from the hotel property to a lot about half a block away and set up as the family home. When the mine closed, Mrs. Thorburn bought ten acres of downtown Evansburg from the mine for one hundred dollars. This included a large portion of the school ground and many lots on the two streets directly east of the hotel, and undeveloped land south and east to the highway. Over the years, the property has all been sold, the last piece being sold in 1976 to Dick Craddock. Here he hoped to establish a shopping centre and call it the Thorburn Centre in honor of Mrs. Thorburn. The new Craddock building is called "Thorburn Town Center."

The war years were difficult and hard for the

family. Mr. Thorburn, now in his late sixties, was not well, so Mrs. Thorburn provided for the family. She took in boarders and sold milk locally.

In 1948, Mr. Thorburn fell and fractured a hip. He was taken to Misericordia Hospital in Edmonton where he died July 5, 1948. He was buried in Calgary.

Mrs. Thorburn always took an active part in community affairs and became very active in the first Community League. With the help of her daughters, Lena and May, she put on the first Winter Carnival in Evansburg. The carnival was held at the rink outdoors and was well attended and very well received. The participants in the show were not accomplished figure skaters, but what they lacked in talent, they made up in enthusiasm. Events included a drill by a group of eight school girls, clowns, and small children being cute on ice. The final performance before crowning the queen was a drill which climaxed with the girls skating with lighted torches on a darkened rink. The queen was to have worn a rented outfit from a costume company in Edmonton, but it did not arrive as expected. The bus driver denied that it was on the bus, but sheepishly brought it back on his return trip the next morning. The committee frantically made a crown and outfitted the queen in a beautiful fur coat borrowed from some kind lady. The show must go on!!

In 1950, Mrs. Thorburn married Ralph Zuar, principal of the Evansburg School. They continued to make their home in Evansburg where both were involved in community affairs.

Mrs. Zuar died on October 19, 1963 and was buried in Edmonton.

In 1943, Lena and May went off to Edmonton to work, Lena for an optician, and May for the Hudson's Bay Company. In 1951, Lena married Franklin Charles Aylwin. A daughter, Susan Lynn, was born in 1952; and a son, William Harry, in 1953. In 1977, Lena returned to school and received her high school equivalency and then attended



Helena, May and Margaret Thorburn.

Grant MacEwan College. At the seventh convocation of the college in 1979, she received her diploma in Early Childhood Development. She is now employed as a kindergarten teacher in the Edmonton Public School system. Both her children live in Edmonton.

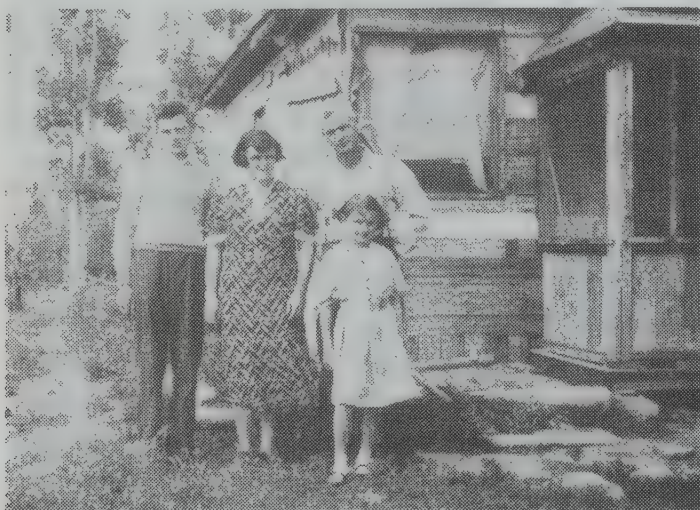
In the fall of 1949, after finally completing Grade twelve (interrupted by the war in 1943), May went to the Edmonton General Hospital to enter a nurses training program. After graduating in 1952 as an R.N., May spent a year working in Alberta, and then moved to California where she worked in Stockton and Hollywood for five and a half years. In 1958, she returned to Edmonton where she worked at the University Hospital for one and a half years. In 1960, she moved again - this time to Honolulu, Hawaii. There she worked at Kapiolani Hospital. She met and married John William Kobold in 1962 in Honolulu. After living five and a half years in Hawaii, they moved to the island of Guam where they lived for three and a half years. Then they moved to Teheran, Iran and lived there one and one-half years. Then they lived in Sierra Vista, Arizona for seven years. They are now back living in California in a small community, just north of San Francisco, called Santa Rosa. May works part time in the operating room of a small hospital in Healdsburg, California.

The Wright Family

by Dorothy Kjelland

Rose and Jim Wright and their children, Cecil and Dorothy, moved to Evansburg on April 25th, 1935 from Aldergrove, B.C. to the Webb place one and one-half miles west of Evansburg. They had good neighbors, the Tom Mazeppa family and Daisy and Walter Cautanche. Tom Mazeppa brought his team of oxen to plow a field for the first planting. Jim received a small pension from World War I and that helped immensely in those first years.

In 1940 they began to sell milk by the bottle to the people in Evansburg and later on in Entwistle also. Jim and Dot were a common sight with the milk buggy during those years of the war. About 1947 they sold the milk business to Bill Tuke and went in for Pure Bred Red Poll Cattle. They sold



Mr. and Mrs. Jim Wright with Cecil and Dorothy, 1939.



Jim Wright with milk cart.

the cattle to Mr. Hillaby of Camrose and then they purchased the store at Niton Junction. They retired from the store business in 1958 and lived at Niton the rest of their years.

Cecil married Jenny Legg of Newfoundland. They have three children and now reside in Edmonton. Dot married Stan Kjelland of Viking. They still reside at Niton and have four children.

George McGowan Family

by Marie Melvin

The George McGowan family came to Evansburg in 1937. George was a mechanic who sold his garage in southern Alberta when automobiles were being made into horsedrawn "Bennet buggies". He invested in a Watkins route which brought him to Evansburg. Most of the exchange for the Watkins products was in farm produce as there was very little money. That, combined with muddy roads, ended the optimistic venture. The mine had been closed for some time and the area was suffering with the rest of the country in the hungry thirties. He and his older sons cleared brush, and harvested to earn a few dollars. He also worked in the Horz mine, which necessitated his walking several miles to work each morning and home again at night.

George came to Canada from North Dakota where he was born, and homesteaded in the Silver Heights district near Coronation. In 1918, he was driving Dr. McPherson of Castor around during the flu epidemic. Clara Falkenberg was also working for Dr. McPherson where she met and married George.

Clara was born in Klotzie, Russia. The family migrated to Canada after living a short time in North Dakota. The father and older sons worked on the C.P.R. when it was being built east of Lacombe. Later, they homesteaded east of Castor. Their first home was a dugout in the coulee bank. Later, a log house was built and the dugout became a chicken coop. Clara remembers picking up dry buffalo chips for fuel. She recalls a prairie fire that wiped out supplies that had been left on the prairie



(L—R) Mrs. McGowan, Mr. McGowan, Marie holding Sharon, Bud, Dorothy, Jessie McCuish, Carl Bjornstad holding Jackie. (Front) Stanley and Kenny Melvin.

when the men went back to Stettler to fetch the family.

George McGowan and Henry Dewald played fiddle tunes together and many evenings were spent entertaining the young people who gathered to hear them in the “Mitchell house”, their first home in Evansburg. George recalled playing for dances in sod shanties. George died at age eighty-six, and is buried in Evansburg cemetery. One son, Frank, is also buried there. Four sons were members of the Canadian Armed Forces. Three, Les, Ted and Stan, still live in Evansburg. Three daughters live out of town: Dorothy in Edmonton, Jackie in Calgary, and Marie in Hinton.

Clara, at eighty, lives in a small house built during the mining years and bought from the Melling Family. She is still active. Clara is a lifetime member of the Legion Auxiliary, and C.W.L., and likes to cook and entertain her large family of six children, twenty-nine grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The John Borys Family

by Mike Borys

The Borys family originally came from Galicia, a province of Austria at that time. They moved to Poland and bought land there in the 1920's. Their land in Galicia was divided into very narrow strips,

but in Poland it was all in one area so was a lot easier to maintain. Times were very hard in Poland then and John was looking for another and better land for his children. John Borys was born in Dobrusin, in Austria-Hungary on June 24, 1907. He was married in Kovel, Poland in 1931 to Elizabeth Kalchuk. They had two children when they immigrated to Canada in July, 1939. The children's names were Michael, aged six years, and Nina, aged four years. The main family occupation in Poland was shoemaking. In fact, John Borys had four or five apprentices at a time learning the trade in Poland. He, himself, took up the trade when twelve years old and worked with his older brother, Wasyl, for some time. But his heart was always with the land and he could see great opportunities in the new land of Canada.

World War II broke out only two months after they arrived in this country. They settled briefly in the Reno district, where his brother, Wasyl, had settled ten years earlier. Then he joined the army where he served for four years in the Ordinance Corps. Michael went to school in Reno for a while. Then John moved his family to Killam, Alberta where he was a shoemaker and harness maker until the fall of 1943. They moved back to Evansburg where John bought the Billy Goodwin farm two miles south of Evansburg. He still did some shoe work along with his farming. He had a shoe shop in Evansburg that he operated two or three days a week. He died in 1959 at only fifty-two years of age. He was a hard worker who contributed to the opening up of this farming area. His son, Michael, took over the farming operation which he maintains today with his family.

The Otto Wolff Family

by Mary Wolff

It was early in the spring of 1940 when Otto Wolff and family cut roots in Coronation and came to Evansburg to build the first creamery west of Edmonton.

Evansburg was suffering from the loss of the coal mine which had closed in 1936. What was once a

flourishing mining town was now almost a ghost town. Few people remained. Many of the miners and their families had left Evansburg to seek jobs elsewhere. Some had gone with the mining company, some took to lumbering, while others turned to homesteading and took on the formidable task of seeking out a livelihood from the bush land.

It would take several years to prepare a field for grain farming as most of the clearing was still done by sheer hard labor. Mixed farming seemed to be the answer. What else could be better when there was a ready market for farm produce in the immediate area?

It was with these thoughts in mind together with Mr. Wolff's experience gained at the Swift Canadian Creamery in Coronation that led to the birth of the Evansburg creamery.

Otto was fully licensed and qualified to operate such a plant. He was experienced in cream grading and testing, butter making, as well as poultry and egg grading. So it was that a thriving business was established and became operative in 1940. It was not an easy task to bring this about.

At that time, Evansburg had yet to be introduced to electricity for lighting, heating or producing power. Many will remember the inconveniences of coal oil lamps as well as coal and wood stoves in the home. In the creamery, hot water was vital for the sterilization of cream cans and the pasteurization of milk. Power of course, was required to turn the milk and butter vats among other things. Otto brought a steam engine into play. The coal fires had to be stoked in the early morning and banked at night. Otto began to tinker with storage batteries hooked up to the engine and eventually ran a cable to our home for a source of power.

Refrigeration posed other problems to be overcome. This was done by cutting huge blocks of ice from the Pembina River in the early spring and packing them in sawdust in the ice house to be readily available when required.

There was no running water. Deep wells had to

be drilled to supply the tremendous amount of water needed to meet the requirements of a successful dairy industry.

Things were progressing quite smoothly when in June 1945, the building was almost entirely burned and our peak productive season came to an abrupt end. It was frightening to realize that so much of what we had already worked so hard for could so easily disappear. We were suddenly faced with rebuilding. This was, however, accomplished. The business was once more resumed and became an even greater asset to the local community. Business expanded, with sales reaching as far west as Jasper and east to Edmonton.

More experienced help was required in the line of general creamery work, so the Glenn Campbell family was brought to Evansburg. Glenn became an efficient butter maker, winning prizes for our butter at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto. He was also the recipient of the much coveted "Gold Watch" for being the most efficient butter maker for a one year period.

Our son Ronald and son-in-law Don Boyce played very important parts in the growth of the industry. Both achieved Stationary Steam Certificates and acquired generalized knowledge in all facets of the dairy operation. These were necessary resources for the business to remain independent.

Milk pasteurization equipment was installed and bottled milk became an ever increasing commodity. In 1956, the Evansburg Creamery was sold to Mr. H. Smith and became known as "Valley Dairies".

In 1957 Mr. Wolff bought the C.J. Macphee General Store and operated it until our retirement in 1970. Otto died in February of 1972 and remains terribly missed as a husband, father and friend.

Otto always believed strongly in returning something of value to the people and places making up his home and community.

During the thirty years we spent in Evansburg, Otto was nearly always a member of the local dance

orchestra as an enthusiastic drummer. Otto was involved in the building of the first curling rink and was on the Board of Directors for a number of years. He was an ardent curler. He also helped to organize the first local Chamber of Commerce.

The family was active in the United Church. In retrospect, our religious commitment seemed closely wrapped up in the social involvement in the church. Three of our five children were born while we lived in Evansburg and all received their secondary education there.

The thirty years we spent in Evansburg bring back many pleasant memories. The members of the Otto Wolff family: Otto and Mary and children Ronald, Marilyn, Shirley, Rosemary and Susan all wish to thank the town and surrounding community for their part in our story.

Robert Lee Wilson Family

by Winnie Mae (Wilson) Wilkinson

My father, Robert Lee Wilson, came to Evansburg from Innisfail, Alberta, in 1941 to work in Joe Young's logging camp, later going to Henry Dewald's camp. In 1942 my mother Molly and we four children followed him to Evansburg. We arrived late in the evening and tried to find Alf Prescho's place where Dad had told us to go. We stopped at Tom Hutchinson's place, north of Evansburg and they directed us to Newt Osborne's place, just across the road, where we were welcomed and had a supper of Prairie Chicken soup, which Newt had brewing on the stove. Newt said we could stay there until Dad found us better lodging so we were there until 1944. He was like a grandfather to us. We moved closer to town when we left there, and lived on the flat by Bill Tuke, right on the banks of the Lobstick river. How well I remember the flood of 1944, as the bank was washing away right beside the house we lived in, and we had to walk around through Kordeliuks to get into town.

The logging camps weren't so busy by this time and my dad had gone north to work on the Alaska Highway. He drowned in Hay River on September



Bob and Molly Wilson



Winnie, Bud and Virginia Wilson.

16, 1946, helping to unload a barge. He is buried on the banks of the McKenzie River at Ft. Providence.

In 1947 we moved to Rochfort Bridge and all of us children have married and settled in the Mayerthorpe area. Jim Wilson, the oldest son, married Mabel Wilson and they live at Blue Ridge. They have five children.

Bud married Ellen Hoff. They live a mile east of Mayerthorpe. They have three children.

Virginia married Doug Andrew. They live on a farm north east of Mayerthorpe. They have two children.

I, Winnie Mae, married Ben Wilkinson, and we live on a farm south west of Mayerthorpe in the Anselmo district. We have four children.

George Hays, a chosen son of Molly, married Connie Leuzic and they live in Sangudo. They have two children.

Molly passed away on April 12, 1982 in the Misericordia Hospital of complications caused by sugar diabetes.

The Glenn Campbell Family

by Winnifred Campbell

The Campbell family moved to Evansburg the summer of 1943. Glenn and Otto Wolff had worked together for Swifts creamery in Coronation. When Otto decided to try his luck at opening a place of his own in Evansburg, he told Glenn that if the business prospered he would send for him to come as a buttermaker. Two years later he was doing well and phoned Glenn to come. We were ready to move.

This was the first creamery in the area and the farmers had been shipping all their cream into Edmonton.

Glenn came to Evansburg in April and I followed with six of the children as soon as school was out the end of June. The two oldest ones had summer jobs. They arrived the first part of September. It was quite an event for all of us never having lived anywhere except on the prairie. The children had never been on a train so it was an exciting trip, but very tiring. By the time we got to Edmonton and Otto met us we were all glad to have almost reached our destination. But what a ride to Evansburg. The highway was only paved about half way, the remainder a gravelled road. We were packed in like sardines. It was hot and June always got car sick.

In those days the first thing one saw upon

reaching Evansburg was a huge mound of slack and reject coal left from the mining days. Part of it was covered with vegetation but one side remained bare and on windy days it burst into glowing embers. One of the children asked what that was and Otto replied, "The dump". Jean's gloomy comment was "I think the whole town is a dump". We had supper and spent the night at Otto and Mary's house and next day were all ready to settle into our new home.

Glenn had written me that he was very lucky to be able to rent a house for us. Houses for rent are very scarce in small towns and especially ones large enough to accommodate a family of ten. He said it was an old mansion right on the bank of the Lobstick River. It was the old Jock Mitchell house and I guess it had been a beautiful place at one time. It was roomy and held us all, but in the winter we almost froze. The summers were lovely, it was so restful to hear the river flowing. It was a beautiful spot. We lived there for about five years, during that time the creamery burnt down and was rebuilt. We also had a new baby daughter. Glenn was taking an active part in the community league and also had a great deal to do with the promotion of curling and the building of a rink.



Staff at Evansburg creamery Glen Campbell, Otto Wolff, and Lore Graham.

When the house we were in was sold, we moved up town. Here we had another baby girl. The older ones were growing up, some were married, some away working.

Otto sold the creamery to Mr. H. Smith (Valley Dairies), but Glenn continued on as buttermaker. The company moved him to Sangudo, then after five years it was back to Evansburg where he continued until his retirement in 1971. Glenn passed away one year later.

The children by this time were all married. Elaine to Nibert Ladouceur, Ross to Alice Yandt, Jean to Alan Anderson, Claire to Elmer Lundrigan, Willa to Charlie McDiarmid, June to Raymond Hoffman, Alan to Gwen Ife, Keith to Doreen Steinkey, Mickey to Wes Jacobson, Lynne to David Adams. I have twenty-four grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. I still live in Evansburg in one of the original mine houses and will be here as long as I am able. Evansburg will always mean home to all of us.

Winnifred Campbell passed away June 25, 1982.

The Ross Campbell Family

by Alice Campbell

William Ross Campbell; Ross as he is known to everyone was born in Coronation, Alberta and lived there for the first fifteen years of his life. He is the second eldest of ten children.

In 1943 he moved with his mother, father, sisters and brothers to Evansburg. Here he completed his schooling. He then went to work for the C.N.R., working in various towns and villages in the province. In 1946 he took up residence in Edmonton, working for Bruce Robinson Electric.

I - Alice Viola (Yandt) Campbell was born in Turtleford, Saskatchewan, the youngest daughter of Milton and Kathleen Yandt. We arrived in Evansburg May 4th, 1944, after living a year in Entwistle, and before that for a few years in Edmonton. Ross and I met while going to school.

We were married in Edmonton in 1947 and lived there for the next few years. Our son Donald Ross and daughter Sandra Gaye were born there. We missed our family, friends, and life in a small town, so we returned to Evansburg where Ross went to work for my dad in his garage. He also purchased, and drove a school bus in the Park Court area.

In 1954 we formed a partnership with Morris Manz and started our own business "Evansburg Super Foods". This was the first self-serve grocery store in this area and was situated where the dentist office and Royal Bank now stand. It was not too many years until our business out-grew the premises and we had to have more floor space. We built our new store in 1965, on main street, one block south of our old location. E.C. Purin's store which later became the Co-op store was at one time situated on this lot.

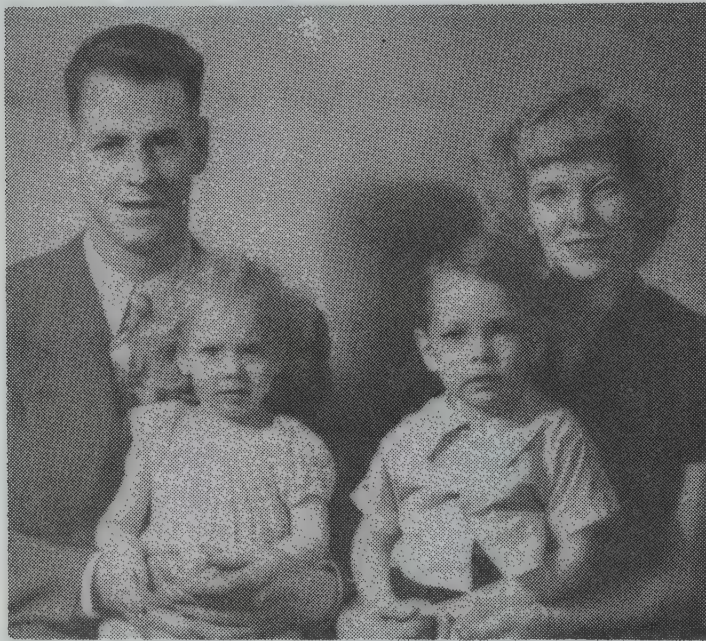
1955 was the year we built our house. At that time there were only three houses on the block and directly north of our house was a cow barn and yard. There was no water, sewer nor natural gas in the town. Evansburg had better streets than most small towns, their streets were made and packed with coal cinders.

Ross was always interested in sports of all kinds. As a youngster he rode as a jockey, played hockey and baseball. He took a very active part in the promotion and building of the curling rink, and served on the executive for many years. He also had a great deal to do with obtaining and building the golf course and forming the Golf Club. He served on the executive for many years. A lot of his time and energy went to community work. He was an active member in the Community League, the Chamber of Commerce, the Elks, the Kinsmen, and the K-40.

In February 1971 we sold our store "Evansburg Super Foods" to Four-Way Whole Sale and Ross went to work for Alberta Transportation, where he is still employed. Over the years I worked at various jobs, for A.G.T. as a telephone operator, for the postal department, and in our own store. In

January 1975 I also joined the government, working with Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance and I'm still with them.

Both our children are married and have families. Donald married Gwen Bancroft and has two sons, Russell and Wayne. They live in Entwistle. Donald is a meat cutter and manages the meat department for I.G.A. in Drayton Valley. Sandra is Mrs. Larry Lefebvre, has a son, Dennis and a daughter, Lindsay. Her husband is an engineer with B.C. Tel., and they live in Vernon, B.C.



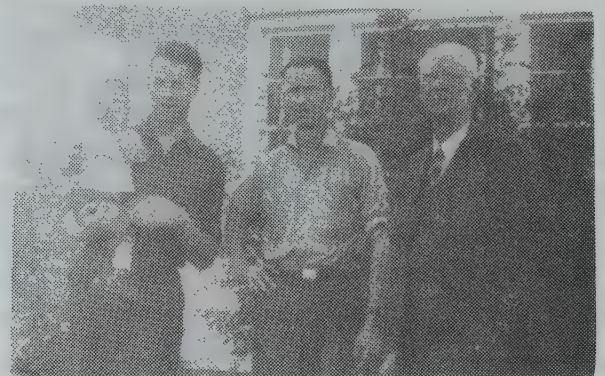
Mr. and Mrs. Ross Campbell with Sandra and Donald.



Mrs. Glen Campbell and family



Mr. and Mrs. Glen Campbell with Elaine and Ross.



**Four generations of Campbells
Ross with son, Donald, Glen and Donald Sr.**

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Yandt

by Mrs. Yandt

We, Milton and Kathleen Yandt came to Evansburg in 1944, when we bought the North Star Garage that was being operated then by Mr. Joe Fix.

We were married in Turtleford, Saskatchewan, where we lived for several years, farming.

Our three daughters were born there, Elinor, Phyllis, and Alice. Times were very hard in the early thirties and often there was not too much to eat. However we managed with cows, pigs, chickens and a large garden. Once the mother pig died, so we had to hand feed the three babies. These little pigs became real pets, and where ever you saw the three little girls, the three baby pigs were following close behind.

In those days the stock was watered at the well.



Alice, Phyllis and Eleanor Yandt, 1935.

The water was pulled up by a bucket on a windlass. This was hard work, drawing water, and it had to be done year round.

Our horses had all been wild broncos, which had to be broken. After much patience and many hours they became good work horses. These horses were used for plowing, seeding, at threshing time and to pull the sleigh in the winter months, as well as for riding and cutting out cattle.

In the late 1920's the land was all cleared by hand. All winter Milton cut trees down with an axe and in the summer the roots and stumps were pulled by the team of horses. It was my job to load and haul the trees to the farm yard. These would be sawed into wood for the next winter's use. Milton broke up hundreds of acres of land with his horses and breaking plow. In later years he bought an 18-32 case tractor with spade lugs and he did breaking for a lot of neighbors and friends. Our work day started at 3 a.m. and lots of times never ended until around midnight. In the winter months Milton travelled around the area, sawing wood and crushing grain. Quite often he was miles from home, and would walk most of the way behind the sleigh, to keep from freezing. A lot of the time our weather was 40 degrees below. When it was cold the neighbors at the far end of the school division would drive the children to and from school with horses and sleigh. Our clothes always froze on the line in this kind of weather, so you had to fight to get the sheets and underwear off the clothes line and into the house to thaw and dry. Of course you carried in the snow to melt for washing and bathing.



Mr. Yandt's Garage.



Mr. and Mrs. M. Yandt.

For thirteen years Milton ran a threshing outfit, and that meant a thresher and tractor. At least three of the six bundle teams were always driven by Indians from the near by reserve. I cooked for the threshers. Breakfast was at 5 a.m. lunch at 9:30, dinner at 12 noon, lunch again at 3 p.m. and supper at 7 p.m. The hours were long and the work was hard, but we managed.

Milton played the fiddle for hundreds of dances in the area. He also called for square dances. He received two dollars and fifty cents for playing from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m.

We lived in a log house with a sod roof, that we built. It had white-washed walls and board floors. Times were very hard and as the years got drier and drier and the crops got worse, we decided to sell out and move to Edmonton. Here we bought an acreage, had mink and bees, and Milton worked at Aircraft Repair for several years, repairing and building airplanes.

From Edmonton we moved to Entwistle, where we lived one year. Milton worked as a mechanic and drove a bus two evenings a week to Drayton Valley and Violet Grove. On May the 4th, 1944, we arrived in Evansburg, where we were in business for fifteen years. We sold General Motors cars and trucks; Case Farm Machinery; gas and oil, Elephant Brand Fertilizer, washing machines, radios, and were the first in this area to sell T.V.'s. When we first came to Evansburg we bought the old North Star Garage. We had 32 volt power in the garage and house. We were one of the few families to have electricity. In 1950 we built a new building with two suites above. It stood where the drug store and bakery now stand. We called our new place "Evansburg Sales and Service". We sold B.A. products.

We took an active part in the community, belonging to the United Church, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Community League. Milton played the fiddle and called square dances at Evansburg, Entwistle, Park Court, Holly Springs, Styal, Reno, Brightwood, Magnolia, Stanger, Moon Lake, and Drayton Valley. Some folk who accompanied him from time to time were Bill Clark Sr., Otto Wolff, Fred Horz, Ken Froland, Carl Ohl, Kurt Fausak, Mrs. Wilma Tufty, Butch Starling, the Soroka Brothers, Bill Kochansky, and of course Alice, our daughter on the piano. Milton still plays at family get togethers with Alice on the piano and Elinor on the banjo.

We have semi-retired on an acreage in Kelowna B.C. Milton still holds his mechanics license, and still does car repairs. Our eldest daughter Elinor lives here too. Her eldest son David and youngest son Kevin also live here. Her middle son, Norman, lives in Edmonton.

Our second daughter, Phyllis, lives in Entwistle. Her eldest son Allen, and daughter Jean live in Edmonton. Phyllis' second son Robbie and youngest son Jim also live in Entwistle.

Our third daughter Alice, lives in Evansburg. Her son Donald, lives in Entwistle, and her daughter Sandra, lives in Vernon, B.C.

We are thankful to have had a long and useful life, and "Thank God" every day for our good health and lovely family. Incidentally, we have nine grand children, and twelve great grandchildren. We celebrated our Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary in Evansburg five years ago, among family and old friends. We'll always have wonderful memories of Evansburg.

The Bruners

by Merle Bruner

In the year of 1908 my grandparents, Henry and Ida Bruner, with their grown family of four boys and two girls came to Alberta. They settled around Airdrie for a while.

Roy, the oldest son, was married and had one son at the time. There were five daughters and another son born in later years.

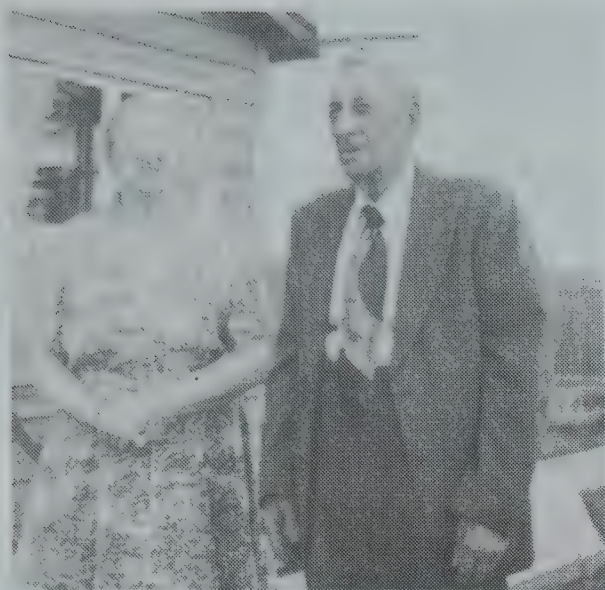
Roy homesteaded in the Thorhild area around 1910 or 1911. The rest of the Bruners moved into the Wildwood area, then known as Junkins.

Around 1923 Roy and family left Thorhild and moved into Edmonton. He worked for the City of Edmonton for a number of years, driving a team.

They sold out in Edmonton in 1937 and moved onto twenty acres a mile east of what is now known as the Seba overpass. In 1941 they moved to B.C. and lived around Coquitlam. They came back in 1943 and lived near Fallis until they bought the acreage in Evansburg, known as the Coffee place, in June, 1944. They lived there until after Roy passed away in December, 1961. Bertha died in July, 1975.

I, their son Merle, came to Evansburg in 1946 when I returned from overseas. I had worked at a number of jobs around the area, and also away from home, over the years. In 1951 I rejoined the army and was away for three years. In 1952 I and Blanche Clark were married.

We have raised six boys - Ted, Zane, Lee, Jeff, Grant and Kelly; and two girls - Lisa and Holly.



Roy and Bertha Bruner.



Merie and Blanche Bruner's family

(Standing) Lee, Holly, Zane, Lisa, Ted, Jeff (Seated) Kelly, Grant, Blanche, Merie.

Ted and Lee are married. Ted married Beatrice Wilson, who is a granddaughter of John and Hazel Wilson. Lee married Christine Stewart from Moon Lake. They have a daughter, Jennifer.

The Froland Family

by Stanley Froland

The Ivor Froland family were not really pioneers. They came to Evansburg in June, 1944 from Cherhill, Alberta. Before residing in the Cherhill area, the family lived in the Coronation region.

At the time the Frolands moved to Evansburg, of their five children, only the youngest boy, Stanley,

came with Ivor and Lydia. The oldest boys Walter and Kenneth were overseas in World War II. The girls, Inez and Judy worked in Edmonton. We recall that on May 12th of the year we arrived in Evansburg, we had about two feet of wet snow. It made the roads impassable, and power and phone lines were down.

Our first home in the Evansburg area was the old Walter Coutanche farm, one and one half miles west of Evansburg, just north of the road.

Mr. and Mrs. Coutanche were long-time residents of the area (he was a World War I veteran) but they decided in that year to sell out and move to Port Moody, B.C. Our neighbors to the south were Mr. and Mrs. Jim Wright, (he also was a World War I veteran). On the north were the MacDiarmid brothers - Alec, Colin and John - and two sisters. One of the sisters, Mrs. Jessie Baker, lives on the home place today with her husband, Dr. Tom Baker.

After arriving in Evansburg, Ivor began working at the creamery while Stanley looked after the farm. On the farm, Stanley ran a dairy, delivering raw milk door-to-door in the Wildwood - Evansburg - Entwistle area. He also delivered milk to the government relief camp located in the Pembina River Valley between Evansburg and Entwistle.

As was mentioned before, the Frolands were originally from Coronation. It's interesting that in the first few years in Evansburg we were associated with a number of other people from the same area. Otto and Mary Wolff, who built the creamery, were from Coronation as well as their butter-maker Glen Campbell. Bill Allen, a retired R.C.M.P. Officer, who was in charge of the relief camp, was also from Coronation.

At one time or another, after the war, the rest of the family spent varying amounts of time in Evansburg. Walter, the oldest of the children moved to Evansburg with his new bride, Tillie (nee Martiniuk). Here he drove a school bus from 1947-1953. In 1953, Walter and Tillie and their three sons (a fourth son was born in 1955) moved to Spirit River.

Walter passed away on December 20th, 1972 as a result of complications following heart surgery. At this time he was living in Jasper, Alberta, and was employed as the secretary-treasurer of the school division. Today Tillie and the two youngest sons, Walter and Brian, live in Jasper. The oldest son, Larry, lives in Cranbrook, B.C. The third son, Keith, lives in Evansburg where he is employed as a school principal. Tillie now has seven grandchildren.

When Ken returned to Evansburg after the war, he first worked at the creamery. Later, Ken started Evansburg's first meat market after Evansburg's come-back. It was located across the street (east) of the hotel and beside Bill Barwise's house. Ken also operated a taxi service for a number of years. Later on he married an Evansburg school teacher and some years later (around 1960) they moved to the United States. At the present time they live in Los Angeles, California, where they operate a restaurant and own five apartment buildings. They have one daughter who has completed business college.

In 1946, Stanley purchased the Wolff's Den, a family restaurant in Evansburg, from Arthur Wolff, a brother of Otto Wolff. Several years later, Stanley moved to Port Coquitlam, B.C. (January, 1948) where he married a local girl. Here he established a fast food outlet called the Giant Burger Drive-in. This business expanded to five locations over the years in and around Vancouver. Stanley retired in 1980. At the present time Stan and his wife Disa and his mother Lydia Froland live in Port Coquitlam. As well, Stan's two married children along with three grandchildren live in Port Coquitlam.

Inez Forland, who married a World War II veteran, Milton Jevning, returned to Evansburg in 1948 to take over the Wolff's Den from Stan. Later she and her husband moved to LaGlace, Alberta and on to St. Paul, Alberta where Milton was a Co-op Store manager. They presently live in Edmonton and have three children and five grandchildren.

Judy Froland, the youngest of Ivor and Lydia's children, married a local boy, Bill Otto, also a long-

time resident of the Evansburg area. At present they have two children and two grandchildren and all live in Edmonton.

Ivor and Lydia of course remained in Evansburg from 1944 on. Over the years they operated school buses in the area. As well they were employed by the Edson School Division and later the Yellowhead School Division as caretakers at both the old school by the creamery and the new Evansview School on the hill. In his later years Ivor enjoyed the company of the "ten o'clock coffee club" at the hotel.

Lydia was known by all the neighborhood children as the "cookie lady", as she always had a supply of ginger snaps and sugar cookies for any who dropped by. Ivor passed away in 1975, after a lengthy illness. Lydia continued to reside in Evansburg until 1978. She has, since that time, been living in Port Coquitlam with her son Stanley and his wife.

The Josef Schendzielorz Family

by Maria Schendzielorz

Josef Schendzielorz was born in Germany. He came to Canada May 1, 1930. He farmed in Grassland, Alberta, until 1945. Then he moved to Evansburg where he built cabins and a recreation ground. This area is now owned by the German Lutheran Church. Josef passed away in April, 1963 at seventy years of age.

His wife, Valeska Schendzielorz was born in Germany and came to Canada in September, 1950, with her daughter Irmgard Schendzielorz. Two years later Irmgard married Max E. Kunz from Illinois, U.S.A. and moved to Utah, U.S.A.

Richard Schendzielorz, the oldest son, came before World War II, and stayed with his dad on the farm in Grassland for fifteen years. Later he had his own farm. He had a lovely wife and five children, four girls and one boy.

Richard passed away at fifty-seven years of age. His wife followed him just one year later.

Helmut Schendzielorz came to Canada on May 11, 1951, with his wife, Maria and daughter, Anita. Later another daughter, Monika, was born.

Helmut worked in the Evansburg Creamery for twenty-three years. His dream was to have his own wire factory. He built the machine himself to manufacture wire in all gauges. If only he had had the money to start the business! In those days it was not easy to borrow money, so he stayed with the creamery. Then in 1978, he passed away.

Anita married Tony Janeszewski on July 26, 1967. They have two boys, Paul and David.

Monika married Mike Guest on July 19, 1978. They have two girls, Suzanne Marie and Pamela Anne.

Carl and Betty Bjornstad Family

by Betty Bjornstad

Carl and I (Betty Rauser) were married on August 5, 1947, in the Evansburg United Church. We spent the next six weeks at Miette Hot Springs where Carl was employed as a life-guard. When that job was finished on September 15, we moved to Mercoal, where Carl worked in the coal mine for a few years. We were not lonely as many people from Evansburg and Entwistle were working there also.

Our eldest son, Dick, was born while we lived there.

In August of 1951 we sold our home in Mercoal and moved back to Evansburg to live with Carl's parents. His father needed help with his hog-raising venture which was situated where the present approach to Evansburg meets Highway 16. This venture failed after some time, so Carl worked at various jobs to support our growing family.

In June, 1954, he started to work for Department of Highways, where he is still employed as maintenance foreman.

We have a family of seven - four sons, Dick,



Carl and Betty Bjornstad's wedding.



**Carl and Betty Bjornstad and family
B.R. Ronald and Dick. F.R. Kenny, Carl, Betty, Gale, Carla,
Sheila and Keith.**

Ken, Ron, and Keith, and three daughters - Gale, Sheila and Carla.

Carl was always very active in community work and organizations. He served several terms on the village council and belonged to the volunteer fire department for many years. He is an active member of the Legion and Lions clubs, and over the years took an active part in the Kinsmen Club, the Elks and the Historical Society.

Many, many hours of volunteer labour were spent at the arena and the museum as well as helping with minor hockey activities. He was

presented with the Citizen of the Year Award in 1968.

He enjoys doing carpentry work and spends the summer improving the appearance of our yard.

Our family is all grown up with the exception of Carla, who attends Grand Trunk High School. Dick, Ken, Keith, Gale and Sheila all live and work in Edmonton and Ron lives at Swan Hills.

Fred Ledinski Family

by Annie Ledinski

I, Annie Pawlyna, was born and raised in Evansburg.

Fred was born in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, and grew up on a farm in the North Battleford area.

We were married January 23, 1945 while Fred was stationed at Ft. Nelson, B.C. in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He served five years in the forces, then enrolled in a Veteran's Mechanical course in Red Deer.

Next we moved to Evansburg and settled down, with Fred working for Pembina Municipality for six years, and then working on construction work and pipelines.

We raised a family of five daughters: Rose Marie, Sherry, Freda, Brenda and Ruby; and one boy, Kevin - all of whom graduated from Evansburg High School. Rose Marie worked for A.G.T. on the manual switch board under Mrs. Stella Hale before the advent of dial phones.

I took over my mother's confectionery store in 1965, which I still operate along with the Greyhound Bus stop.

The Lundrigans

Walter Lundrigan was born October 14, 1903 in Wilcox, Saskatchewan. His wife Catherine McKay was born April 12, 1910 in Glasgow, Scotland.



The Lundrigan house as it appeared when they moved into it in 1947.

Walter and Kay were married in Fairview, Alberta in 1929. They had three children, Elmer, Winona and Ian. They homesteaded west of Hines Creek, Alberta until 1947. Walter purchased the Evansburg Hardware and adjacent house from Fred Horz in the spring of 1947 and he and Kay and family settled in Evansburg. Walter operated the hardware store and the Ferguson farm agency until his death June 8, 1954. Kay then took over the business. She sold the hardware several years later and went to work for Fish and Wildlife and Municipal Affairs. In her spare time she enjoyed curling and golfing. She was also a member of the United Church Ladies Aid. Kay resided in Evansburg in their original home until her death July 13, 1967.

Elmer is married to Claire Campbell. They have two children, Shawna and Brent, all live in Edmonton. Winona is married to Bill Peter. They have four children, Cathy, Bill, Darrell and Karen. They live in Burnaby, B.C. Ian is married to Heather Ross. They have a daughter Shelly and live in Edmonton.

Robert Cumming Family

by Mary Cumming

The Robert Cumming family may not be pioneers of the Evansburg area in the sense of early settlers but it has been their home for thirty-five years and a good place to raise a family.

When they arrived in the spring of 1947, Evansburg was a small hamlet striving to make a comeback from the recession it had suffered after the mine closure.

There were no services such as water, sewer, lights, natural gas or telephones. Water had to be carried some distance, therefore not even a drop was wasted. You hoped to have sufficient rain water during the summer and then melted snow in the winter to provide a supply for bathing and washing clothes, being careful to save enough when finished to scrub the floors. By the time the water and sewer services were installed in 1959 one was led to believe that the stiffness in your right elbow was arthritis. Needless to say this soon disappeared when it was no longer necessary to carry water pails and the five-gallon slop pails.

Then there was the matter of providing fuel for the stoves. This became a family project every summer. With plenty of road construction underway in the area at the time a person could obtain the felled trees for taking them away and this is where the work began. The trees were hauled home, sawed, chopped and neatly piled, and did provide cheap fuel.

What Evansburg did have was an abundance of good fellowship that accepted the family into the community giving them the opportunity to be a part of the new growth that was soon to take place in the hamlet.

Robert (Bob) Cumming was born on January 31st, 1901 at Comrie, Perthshire, Scotland, the eldest of nine children born to Alexander and Mary Cumming.

After leaving school he worked in the lumbering industry in northern Scotland and with the Northwestern Railway in Invernesshire until he decided to immigrate to Canada in 1927.

On arriving at Immigration Hall in Edmonton on May 9th he was immediately hired as a farm hand on a farm near Radway, Alberta. It was in this area that he was to make his home for the next sixteen years.

During this time his employment varied from that of a janitor to a trucker and finally as a butter-maker. However in 1943 for health reasons he was



Bob and Mary Cumming on their Wedding day. They are on the right.



**The Cumming Children about 1959
(L—R) Janet, Maureen, Bud and Margaret.**

obliged to change occupations and this was when he became a grain buyer. He started with the Home Grain Company at Griesbach near Fort Saskatchewan and then in 1945 changed over to United Grain Growers and was located at Manola. In 1947 he was transferred to Evansburg where he continued

to buy for the company until his retirement in May, 1965.

Interested in community activities he served on various committees of the Community League including that of president. He spent many hours cleaning and flooding the ice on the outdoor skating rink to insure that the youngsters had their skating.

Along with Glen Campbell, Otto Wolff, Charlie Taylor and Ralph Zuar, Bob was instrumental in bringing the first curling game to Evansburg. The game was played on the open air skating rink with rocks that had been borrowed from the Edson Curling Club. This created interest in curling for Evansburg and it was not too long before these men along with many other volunteers had the first Evansburg Curling Rink constructed.

Bob continues in community involvement as an honorary member of the Evansburg Royal Canadian Legion and Charter Member of the Double E-E Lions Club.

Mary Cumming was born at Vegreville, Alberta on June 12th, 1913 the second of seven children born to Thomas and Anna Farrell.

She recalls that Evansburg was a part of her childhood memories - remembering the chunks of Pembina Peerless coal used to heat their home in Vegreville and the many loads that her father as a drayman hauled throughout the town.

After completing her schooling in Vegreville she graduated as a registered nurse from the Edmonton Misericordia School of Nursing.

In 1934 her profession took her to join the staff of the St. Joseph Hospital in Radway where she met Bob and they were married on November 27th, 1937.

When Evansburg was incorporated as a village in 1952 Mary was approached to consider taking the duties of Secretary-Treasurer as the position was known at that time, but she declined. In 1954, Ar-

thur Wolff, who had been carrying on as Secretary-Treasurer in conjunction with his real estate business asked that she give him a couple of months assistance in setting up a new tax roll. While doing this she was convinced to accept the position which she held until retirement over twenty-two years later.

Shortly after Mary arrived in Evansburg, Mrs. Muldoon, President of St. Elizabeth Catholic Women's League invited her to join their group, then followed the Community League, the Home and School Association, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Royal Canadian Legion and the Curling Club. In these groups she invariably held various executive and committee positions throughout the years.

For a period of about eleven years there was much involvement by members of the family in the programming, costumes and active participation in the annual Ice Carnival which was the main source of funds for the Community League.

Bob and Mary had four children; Margaret born August 4th, 1939; Thomas (Bud) September 15th, 1940; Maureen July 3rd, 1943 and Janet June 2nd 1948. They were educated in Evansburg and graduated from High School there where they actively participated in the affairs of the school such as the Students Union, the Yearbook and sports.

Margaret graduated from the Edmonton Misericordia School of Nursing in March 1960 being Valedictorian of the class. In November of the same year she was married to R.C.M.P. Constable John Sebastian who was stationed with the Evansburg detachment.

Their wedding dance was unique in the fact it was the first R.C.M.P. red serge wedding dance to be held in Evansburg. Because of the size of the Catholic Church the wedding was held in Edmonton.

They have two sons and John's postings have taken the family from southern to northeastern Alberta and as far as Inuvik, N.W.T. As an Inspec-

tor with the force he is presently at headquarters in Edmonton. They make their home in St. Albert where Margaret works as a secretary-manager.

Bud left for Rockcliffe, Ontario in November, 1959 as the first recruit from the Evansburg area to be accepted for R.C.M.P. training. He graduated in August 1960 and was posted to British Columbia where he has served in the interior, the north, the Vancouver area and is now on Vancouver Island. Holding the rank of Sergeant in the force he is presently Subdivision Traffic N.C.O. for Courtenay Subdivision.

While stationed in Penticton he met Maxine Sherwin and they were married in November, 1966. They have two daughters and make their home at Comox, B.C.

Maureen went on to secretarial work in Edmonton where she met and was married to Ernest Shenkarek of Edmonton in May 1964. They have continued to make their home in Edmonton where Ernest is employed as plant manager with a printing firm. Maureen is purchasing agent for a retail lumber store. They have three daughters.

Janet became employed with the Yellow Page advertising with Edmonton Telephones. She married Wolfgang Berg of Edmonton in August 1973 and the following year they moved to Campbell River, B.C. where they continue to live. Wolf is a heavy duty mechanic with Crown Zellerback Pulp and Paper Company and Janet is a secretary with the Campbell River R.C.M.P. They have a son and a daughter.

James and Ellen Sherry

by Ellen Sherry

James Sherry was born in Lucky Lake, Saskatchewan and spent his school days there. I was born in Red Deer, Alberta, and came to Evansburg in 1927 with my parents. I attended the Evansburg schools through high school. These were happy days with a variety of activities - skating, and sleigh riding in the winter and swimming in the summer.



Jim Sherry with favorite horse.



Ellen with Tippy on homestead.



Twenty-five year service award presented to Ellen Sherry by zone Postmaster, Leroy Robinson of Drayton Valley.

There were church concerts and picnics and we young people always found a welcome at the United Church Manse with Mr. and Mrs. Howard.

Jim and I were married in 1949 and took up a homestead north of Evansburg. Jim is interested in horses - raising and training them and attending horse shows and rodeos.

I have just completed twenty-five years working in the Evansburg Post Office.

Martha Dieckmann

On arrival in Canada from Germany in 1930, Martha Shebitz married Dr. Wm. Dieckmann. They moved west to Alberta and settled in Peers. While in Peers, Mr. and Mrs. Dieckmann had five children: Hertha, William, Hans, Fritz and Herbert.

After Mr. Dieckmann passed away, Martha and family moved to Evansburg (1948). She chose Evansburg because of the High School for her children.

Martha Dieckmann managed to support herself and her family by washing clothes and doing housework for others. In 1956 she worked as housekeeper for Joseph Hunter, and later moved to



Martha Dieckmann with son Fritz and some of her grandchildren.



Mrs. Dieckmann and friends.

St. Albert with him as his common-law wife. When Joseph retired, they returned to Evansburg.

Hertha married Bill Schrieher of Peers. William has worked for the C.N.R. from when he was nineteen until now. Fritz is involved in various businesses around Evansburg. Hans has been working on bridge crews. Herbie married Esther Boos from Wildwood and they live in Edmonton. He is working for Canadian Freightways.

Martha still resides in Evansburg, at present, and enjoys bingos.

Lorenz Family

by Stella Lorenz

We, Adolph, Stella and our two children, Garry, eight, and Beatrice, six, arrived in Evansburg the morning of November 6, 1950, with our gravel truck pulling our eight foot by twenty-six foot house trailer.

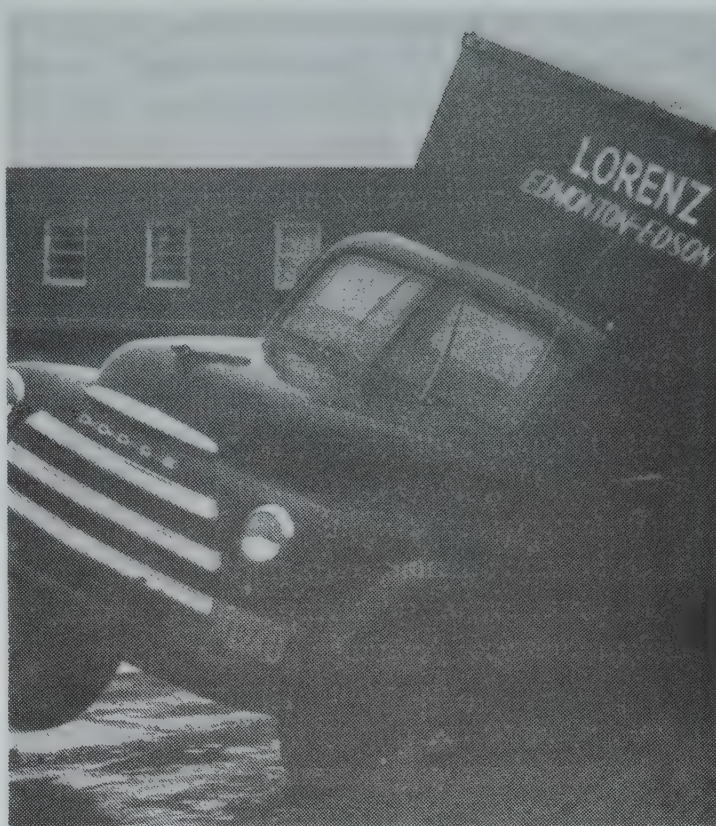
We moved into the cafe situated on the Highway between Yandt's and Young's garages (where the lane to the car wash is now). I took over the cafe from Wilma Tufty and carried on the business without closing the door (for stock taking). Wilma had the old wood and coal stove going full blast

and told me I had to buy some meat and bake some pies for dinner. I hurriedly went to Ken Froland's meat market, bought some meat, baked six pies and was ready for the dinner crowd. There was no running water. We had to carry it from a well beside Yandt's garage. My first waitress was Elsie (Melvin) MacDougal. Later, my sister, Marie (Hoffman) Jevne, joined the staff, plus June Campbell as a part time worker.

Adolph was hauling gravel on a road job for the Department of Highways. They were paving Highway 16 between Seba Beach and Entwistle. Garry was in grade three, and went to school in the Evansview Junior High School building. Beatrice was in grade one. She went to school in the Scout Hall, where the Village Office is now situated.

In 1951 Adolph started a freight run to Edson. He would go to Edmonton on Monday mornings, pick up the freight and return to Evansburg by evening. On Tuesday he would leave for Edson, delivering freight along the way to places like Niton Junction, Ashwell's at the Wolf Creek corner, Sam Robinson's at Carrot Creek, and throughout the town of Edson. There was no pavement west of Entwistle and on many a trip the trucks had to be pulled through the mud with a caterpillar. He had Bob Rauser, and Harry Rauser as drivers, and later, my brother Ray Hoffman. Adolph later sold this freight line to Worthing's Transport, and bought a house and school bus from Walter and Tillie Froland. We left the cafe and moved into this house and Adolph drove the school bus for the next six years. He also worked in Yandt's garage part time.

Music was always a part of Adolph's life. Soon after we arrived in Evansburg he formed a band. He had Ken Froland on the guitar, Otto Wolff on the drums, and Dave Langford on the saxophone. He played the piano himself. They played for dances in the area at Gainford, Seba Beach, Drayton Valley, Wildwood and Evansburg. Over the years, band members would move away or quit but he always picked up another musician. He had Forrest Hale play with him for many years and Ed Nelson too. When Garry grew up he joined the band with



Adolph Lorenz trucking from Edmonton to Edson-in trouble.

Edmonton, Alberta, May 23, 1952



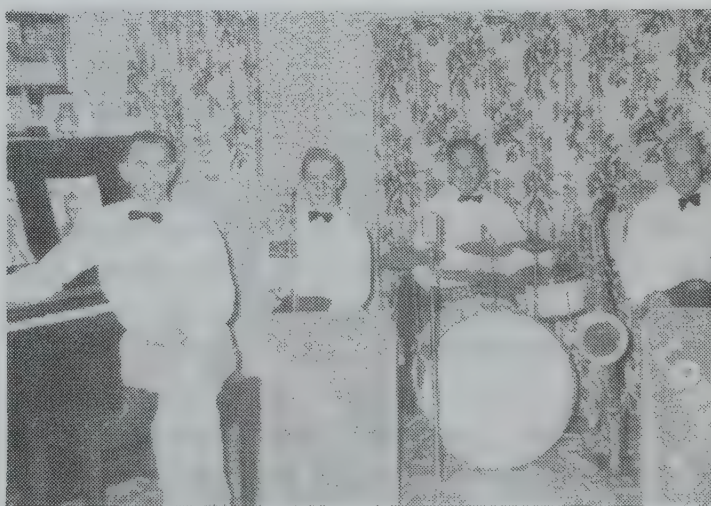
Refresh yourself
with a
**Cool Soft Drink,
Ice Cream or Lunch**
at the

WHITE LUNCH

STELLA LORENZ, Mgr.

EVANSBURG **Alberta**

The White Lunch Ad, 1952.



Lorenz Band. A. Lorenz, Garry Lorenz, Otto Wolff and F. Hale.

his trumpet. We taught Beatrice to play piano, and for several years she played with Garry, Bobby Wolff, and Ted Langford in a high school band. In 1954 our son Keith was born, and he too grew up to be a musician. In later years the band consisted of Adolph and our two sons. They went on to record an L.P. record, which a lot of the people in the area are still playing today.

We were both community minded. Adolph was president of the Community League and the Curling Club when the first curling rink was built in 1955. After it burned down in later years, he was again president when the second curling rink was built. We both participated in the walk-a-thons to raise money for the building fund and in many other money raising schemes. He was president of the Chamber of Commerce while it was still functioning, and later president of P.A.R.S. when the artificial ice plants were installed in the arena and curling rink.

When "Chick" and Allison Colburn left Evansburg, I volunteered to play the organ in the United Church, a job I had for twenty-three years. Of the twenty-five years I was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Legion, I was president for fifteen years at different intervals. Also, I was vice-president and secretary-treasurer. Those first years when we catered to a banquet, we cooked our meals on wood and coal stoves and our water was hauled in eight-gallon cream cans - a far cry from the commercial dish washer in the Auxiliary kitchen today.

We sold the school bus, and for a few years Adolph was involved in road construction. We later went on to start the Evansburg Service Centre which had been shut down at the time. We had to start from scratch. We also built the first Laundromat and Car Wash in Evansburg. We later sold these to the Law Brothers.

Our children graduated from Evansburg High School. Garry married MaryAnn Weist. They have two daughters, Kerry and Trena, who are both musical. They live in Drayton Valley and Garry is

an accountant for D.V. Meter, Ltd. Bea married Joe Tomkinson. They have two daughters, Sheryl and Tracy. Bea joined the Royal Bank in 1962 and is still with them. She lives in Duncan, B.C. with her daughters and is a loans officer with the Royal Bank there. Keith married Gail Greenwood and they live in Edmonton. He works for the C.N.R. as an electrical engineer in the computer repair and program department.

We have semi-retired in Courtenay, B.C. and enjoy our year round golfing.

Glen, Anne, Daryl, Kevyn, and Gary Wade

by Glen Wade

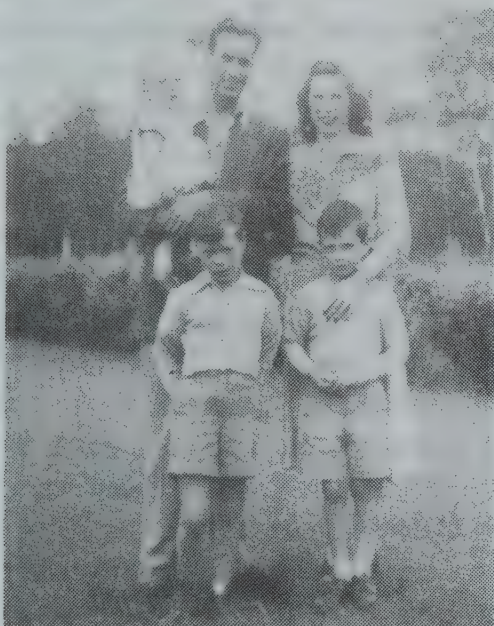
The Wade family had just spent a year and a half in Reading, England, when they were forced to realize that the prestige of lecturing in a cap and gown, which was the compulsory attire of even a low salaried instructor at the University, didn't pay the bills. So a return to Canada, where a teacher's salary looked pretty good, became a very attractive option.

The trip home did not lack in adventure. High winds and mountainous waves meant we were the only ones in the dining room, so we were able to revel in the luxury of pure gluttony. Then New York, where in one day the last of our meagre funds vanished. A phone call to Dad financed our trip as far as Regina. There, I scraped together one hundred dollars with which I purchased a hearse with all its funeral accoutrements. This supposed bargain took us another thirty miles on our way when it burnt out a bearing and had to be abandoned.

However, finally we reached Evansburg about July 1st, 1951 and immediately our fortunes changed. First, I was hired on as a grade nine teacher, duties and salary to commence in September. When I informed the secretary of the school division we had no place to live and no money, he came up with the following. We could have the teacherage, rent free, until September. I could hire on, under Ernie Benesch, as a carpenter to help build an addition to the school I would be teaching



Anne and Glen Wade



Glen Wade holding Gary, Anne, Daryl and Kevin.

in, and I could charge my groceries and other needs at Macphee's General Store. No more worries!

So we set up housekeeping, a packing box for a table, apple boxes for chairs, blankets on cardboard on the floor for beds for ourselves and the kids. Norman Floen, the local trustee, came down to have a look at the new teacher. Presumably the new teacher passed inspection, but the furniture didn't. The next day the school division truck pulled up and unloaded beds, chairs, a table and a few other bits and pieces. Who says school authorities don't have big hearts. This was the beginning of thirty

years of a very happy association with my employer, the Edson School Division, later to be called the Yellowhead School Division.

The really nice thing about the school division in the 1950's and 60's was the lack of bureaucracy. Almost all communications were verbal and decisions could be made at once. There was only one superintendent and one secretary and they had most school situations at their finger tips. Also they placed a considerable trust in the wisdom and good judgement of their teaching staff.

From 1951 to 1966, I had the Pembina Valley Cadet Corps No. 2421. Capt. Joe Majahey and myself were the founders. We relied heavily on the school division for school facilities for our parades and school buses for transportation. If I needed transportation, the bus was always available, providing I returned it clean and with a full gas tank. As I did the driving, our expenses were minimal and many interesting trips were undertaken.

However, all excursions were not free from complications. One of our weekends was a demolition and explosive demonstration at the Winterburn gunnery range. After a very successful day in which we used explosives to cut steel, knock down trees, make craters etc., it was time to go home. But we had almost a thousand pounds of explosive material left over and this had to be got rid of as it could not be transported home. Well what else? With one accord, everyone came to the same conclusion. How big a bang could we make if we set it off, all at once. So picking a small valley, we dumped everything we had left into a hole we dug, then tamped it well with lots of dirt. The bus was driven about half a mile away into another valley. Setting a long delay fuse, everyone sought cover and held their ears. The resulting explosion exceeded all expectations. Dirt flew high, high in the air, and we were left with a crater that would have made a basement for a good sized building. Happy and excited, we returned to the bus and catastrophe. Windows were broken, the windshield popped out, and the rear emergency exit door was curled up like a pretzel.

We had the weekend to get the bus in shape again, so with as much secrecy as possible, Milton Yandt, the local garageman, agreed to work the weekend and donate his labor, providing I could come up with the cost of materials. Monday morning, the bus was almost as good as new. Our mission was a success and nobody was the wiser, or so I believed, until about six months later, the superintendent passed me in the hall at school. Out of the side of his mouth he said, "Say Wade, have you blown up any school buses lately?"

After the dissolution of the Cadet Corps, our activities turned more to hiking trips in the mountains. Because the mountain weather is not always the best, this activity was changed to kayaking, culminating in a thousand-mile trip down the MacKenzie River from Fort Providence to Tuktoyaktuk. I am deeply indebted to Dale Bystrom, Jeff Bruner, Ed Law, Marvin Brown, Jocelyn Hall, Joan Banks and Peter Coates for making this final trip a success.

In the 1950's telephones were relatively scarce, so in order to show my class how a telephone works, I strung a wire from the school down to my house, about a half mile away. Then using Cadet Corp Telephones at each end, I let the kids talk to my wife, Anne, at the house. One grade nine girl, Mary S., who I will let remain partly anonymous, looked very skeptical. "Impossible," she said. "A voice might travel through a pipe, but not over a wire."

So after a fairly comprehensive search of adjacent rooms for such a pipe, she admitted she couldn't figure out how the trick was accomplished, but a trick it definitely was. After much discussion, our final compromise was that she should go down to my house and the rest of the class would remain at the school. She would then phone back and ask for a certain student she would decide on and if that student would answer, she would become a believer in the telephone. Well, this was accomplished and a mystified and still doubting Mary, returned to the school. For a number of years, this phone operated continually at noon and recess.

The old phone service when they had switchboard operators was so much more convenient and personal than modern dial phones. Our kids naturally spent a lot of time playing uptown and when their mothers wanted them, they would ring the operator and say, "Stella (Hale), are the kids uptown?" Stella would come back with "Daryl is riding his bike on main street, Kevyn is visiting with Jerry, and Gary and some other kids are in Bill Barwise's place. Shall I send them home?"

Person to person calls were unnecessary. I was at the army camp at Vernon and wanted to speak to my wife. The phone rang and no answer, so the operator, Dot Beynon, came on. "Glen, if it is Anne you are looking for, she is over at Kate Young's with the Rummoli Club" (the longest surviving gambling organization in the history of Evansburg - at least thirty-five years). And so my connection was made. It was all a part of the service we took for granted.

The Lobstick Valley was quite a recreation area for the school children. Not only was it close to the school, where one could sneak over the bank to have a smoke at recess, but there were good hills to coast down in the fall. When the river froze and before the snow was too deep, one could skate for miles. An excellent place to toboggan was the part of the hill which was cleared for the sewer line. It was so steep and fast that it soon was dubbed the "Sewercide Hill".

Since, the Wade boys have gone on to much more exciting things. Daryl has just returned after working fifteen years in the Arctic. Kevyn has been flying 104's in the Air Force for NATO in Europe, and Gary has undertaken several business ventures.

The Herman Walters Story

by Herman Walters

I, Herman Walters, moved from Onoway to Evansburg in the latter part of June, 1953. Dianna, my youngest child, said that we left Onoway as

soon as she arrived home from school on her last day of second grade.

I was the Massey-Ferguson machine dealer in Onoway for approximately four years. The company asked me to take a dealership in Evansburg.

My wife, myself and our four children, Violet, Alfred, Irene and Dianna came to Evansburg at that time.

I had purchased the coal mine office and shop from Norman Floen. It had previously been occupied by Cockshutt Implements. I operated my business under the name of "Walters Sales and Service." I sold Massey-Ferguson machinery and Studebaker automobiles until the Studebaker Company quit manufacturing cars.

I then sold Volkswagons for a time, but as they could not furnish me with enough vehicles to supply the demand, I switched to selling Renaults.

In 1960 I was the top Renault salesman in Canada for the Renault Company. I won an expense-free trip to the factory in Paris, France, for myself and my wife.

While in Europe the company allowed me the use of a new car free of charge, except for gas. We travelled into Germany where we visited my relatives and my wife's relatives.

During the time I was in business in Evansburg, we had gravel trucks which my son, Alfred, and my son-in-law, Alec Knol and other hired men operated. When the oil boom started in Drayton Valley, we hauled coal there.

We purchased the cinder pile that had accumulated during the time the coal mine was in operation in Evansburg. We sold the cinders to the I.D. and Municipality for road repairs.

In 1962 I purchased N½ of Sec. I-54-8-W5 from Nathaniel Rauser, and two quarters which were the Senetza place. I sold one of the quarters. We are living on the other quarter at the present time. I



B. R. Alec Knol, Alfred Walters, Irene Walters, (Next Row) Herman Walters, Violet Knol, Elsie Walters. (Front) Dianne Walters.



Herman Walters and wife Lois, 1982.

bought another quarter from John Kierzkowski which previously had been Mr. Rhein's property. During my years as a machine dealer, I always farmed some land.

After spending thirty years in the machine and garage business, I decided to retire to the farm. This I did in the fall of 1965.

My three daughters, their husbands and children and my wife and I moved to Vancouver for the winter of 1965-66. My wife and I came back to the farm in the spring of 1966.

In 1974 my wife, Elsie, passed away. In 1975 I married my present wife.

I am still involved with farming as we raise some percentage and purebred Simmental cattle.

Violet married Alec Knol of Highvale. They have one daughter. They live at Highvale and work for Cormie Ranch.

Irene is in Montreal. Alan, her eldest son, is in Vancouver. Jerry, the younger boy, is in Edmonton.

Alfred is in the trucking business and lives in Hinton. He has two children, a boy and a girl.

Dianna married Irvin Roth and they have two boys. They live in Edmonton at this time.

Joseph Hunter

Joseph Hunter moved from Calgary to Evansburg in 1956. He brought with him his three children, James, Donald and Judy.

That year, in partnership with Murray Rose, he built a service station on the corner of Highway 16A and Main Street. For the next three years Joseph Hunter managed and served as mechanic in their garage. He then sold out his partnership and worked for other local garages. Then he decided to work for the oil patch and for several years he worked as a steam engineer.

In 1965 he moved to St. Albert where he accepted employment as steam engineer at the Indian Residential School, and remained there until his retirement.

Joseph returned to Evansburg in 1975. In his retirement, he enjoyed fishing and repairing small motors.



Joe Hunter

Joseph Hunter was a member of the Elks for many years and also served on the Fire Department.

His eldest son, James married Patricia Christensen and they live in Evansburg with their two sons. Donald married Irene Kreminski. They have three sons and reside in Edmonton. Judy married John Harrison and with their family of three, live in Morinville.

Joseph Hunter passed away in June, 1980.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Bauer and Family

We would not call ourselves pioneers as we did not arrive in Evansburg until September, 1959.

Leo Bauer came here to work as a clerk for Mr. H. J. Beynon after the first liquor store was built and stocked.

Mr. and Mrs. Bauer had five children. The oldest daughter was married at Leduc before we left. The second daughter, Leona, was married at the Catholic Church in Entwistle and lives with her husband, Ed Pyska, in the Lake Isle district.

Larry went to school in Evansburg. He then started to work for his Uncle in Stony Plain and finished grades XI and XII there.

After that, he joined the Army and was posted for several years at Vedder Crossing, B.C. He still lives at Yarrow, B.C. with his wife and family.

Marvin and Randy both started school in Evans-

burg and went there until their father was transferred to Breton, Alberta in October, 1966.

After running the store in Breton for ten years, Mr. Bauer had a heart attack and was pensioned off. Now he lives in retirement at Drayton Valley, Alberta.

Ronald and Clara Sole

by Annabell Taylor

Ronald and Clara Sole and family arrived in Evansburg in 1959. Ron was with the Forestry and Wildlife in Edson, and was transferred to Evansburg to open a Fish and Wildlife office in the Wolff Building. Later, this office was transferred to the Grassi building.

Clara taught in the Evansburg Elementary and Evansview schools. Judy, their daughter, who attended Junior High in Evansburg, graduated as a registered nurse from the Mount Royal College, in Calgary. She is now married to Jack MacKenzie of Barrhead, Alberta.

Their son, Jim, who attended the Evansview School, married Dawna Yule of Barrhead. They have an eighteen month old daughter, Nicole, and Jim is now in Zatar with Haliburton Company.

Ron Sole was transferred to Cardston in 1966, but Ron and Clara have returned to the Moon Lake area, and are retired, living on the Runzer quarter.

Beynon Family

by Harold Beynon

The day I, Harold Beynon, arrived in Evansburg, November 1958, I was cheerfully greeted by one of Evansburg's best-loved oldtimers, Charlie Taylor. With his favorite pipe hanging in his mouth, he came up to me and asked: "Are you the Manager of the new liquor store?" And upon my nodding, yes, he quickly added: "You're on Ronnie Wolff's curling team!" I didn't know either Charlie or Ronnie at the time.



Mr. and Mrs. Harold Beynon.



Terry Beynon

I was manager of the Alberta Government Liquor Store until 1969, when my health failed and I had to take early retirement, but we stayed here.

Shortly after our arrival, my wife, Dot, worked for a few years as a telephone operator for Stella Hale, the A.G.T. agent. When phones became automatic and the office closed, she worked for several years as receptionist for Dr. H. K. Goba.

Our son, Terry, attended Junior and Senior High

Schools in Evansburg and was active in Cadets under the direction of Capt. K. G. E. Wade. Terry obtained his commission as Lieutenant and continued to instruct the Cadets for several years. After graduating from high school, he joined the R.C.M.P. when Sgt. Wilf Reinbold was in charge of the detachment. Terry was stationed in B.C. where he met his wife, Marlene. They now have two daughters, Melinda and Leanna, and one son, John.

The Petersons

by Marc Peterson

We, Peter and Marc Peterson, came to the Evansburg area from Lloydminster, Saskatchewan. Peter served in the Canadian Army from 1939-1946. On leaving the Army he bought a farm through the V.L.A. south west of Lloydminster. He joined the Federal Farm Credit Corporation in 1960 and was posted to Edson. With most of the work in the Evansburg, Sangudo-Mayerthorpe area, he asked to have the office moved to Evansburg. There was no office space to rent so he set up in a room in the hotel until the new Post Office building was built. He was able to use two small rooms in it. Swiftly outgrowing this accommodation he moved into the new Grassi Building, where there was room for two offices as there were now two Credit Advisers working the area. The first year with rental space in Evansburg almost non-existent we lived in a suite in the hotel over the bank. We bought the Bob Marshall farm north west of town and built a home on the N.E. 35-53-8-W5th M. We moved to our new home on April 1, 1962, with the help of Otto Weist and his farm truck. On April 6th the neighbors surprised us with a house-warming party. They gathered at Walter Kremeniuks and came from there by tractor and hayrack through two feet of snow.

Our greatest problem the first years were the poor dirt roads. Peter's job with the Farm Credit required daily attendance at the office. Being involved in farm loaning meant constant travelling throughout the Edson, Mayerthorpe, Sangudo area. Many weeks the car came only as far as the gravel

and the tractor sat waiting to come the rest of the way. Sloshing through mud in our rubber boots was the norm. In 1961 the area was underdeveloped, short on livestock. The F.C.C. contributed a great deal of money to rectify the farmers' position and establish economic units.

We were very active members of the Royal Canadian Legion and Ladies Auxiliary, serving in all the executive positions. I enjoyed the years catering to banquets and helping the other hard working members of the Auxiliary. I am still an absent member. I was also a member of the U.C.W., taking a turn as President and as Secretary-Treasurer. Peter took membership in the Elks and later on joined the Lions. We were both instrumental in forming the Pembina River Riders Gymkhana Club, participating in its activities till Peter retired.

In 1970 I started a Ceramic Shop. This gave the ladies in the area an opportunity to pursue a different hobby. I sold the shop when Peter retired in 1976. We sold the home place to Don and Margie Barry and took to the road in a Winnebago Motorhome. We now live in the Okanagan, spending the winters in Arizona.

We have two children, Walter and Kerry. Walter is retired from the Army and lives in Wainwright. Kerry and family live in Calgary. They were frequent visitors to the farm all through the years.

In our retirement we have travelled from Alaska to the Gulf of Mexico but still consider Evansburg a place we must visit once or twice a year.

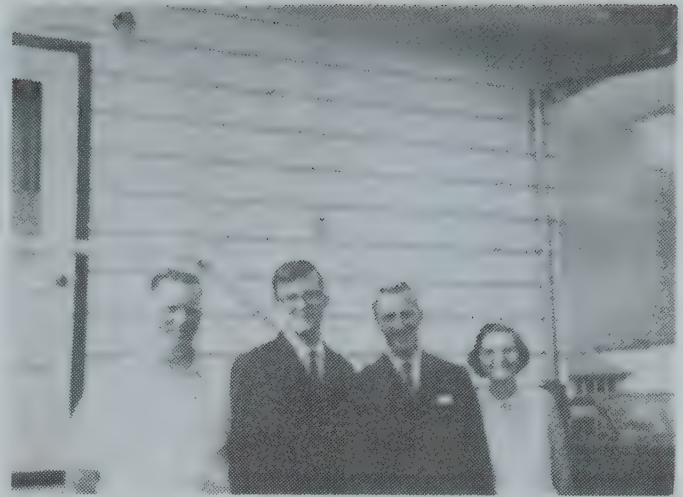
Michael Szautner Family

Michael Szautner was born at Muenster, Saskatchewan in 1932. He was raised on a farm in the Muenster district. He attended St. Francis School and St. Peter's Cathedral. He worked on the farm, then later went to Ontario to work in the gold mines at Sioux Lookout. He came back to Muenster where he was employed as a carpenter.

Johanna Szautner, the former Johanna Schmidt,

was born at St. Gregor in 1933 and raised on a farm in the St. Gregor district. She attended St. Gregor School and St. Gregory Parish. She spent much time working on a farm.

Mike and Johanna were married in 1955. They went to Edmonton to live where Mike was employed with many construction jobs. Later they moved, with their family, to Evansburg to live on a farm. They have eight sons, and now live in the Village of Evansburg where Mike is employed as a carpenter. He also owns a farm and a four-plex.



The Collinge Family
(L—R) Tom Collinge, Jim, Bert and Mrs. Collinge.



1962 Council

(L—R) Mary Cumming, Secretary-Treasurer; John Thompson, Arthur Fielhaber, Carl Bjornstad, Alfred Grapentin, Leonard Corkery.



Mary Drongal, Lily Mazeppa and Katy Raypold.



First Carnival Queen Claire Campbell



Orest Frunchak



Prosperity Certificate



Social Credit Picnic at Entwistle, 1937

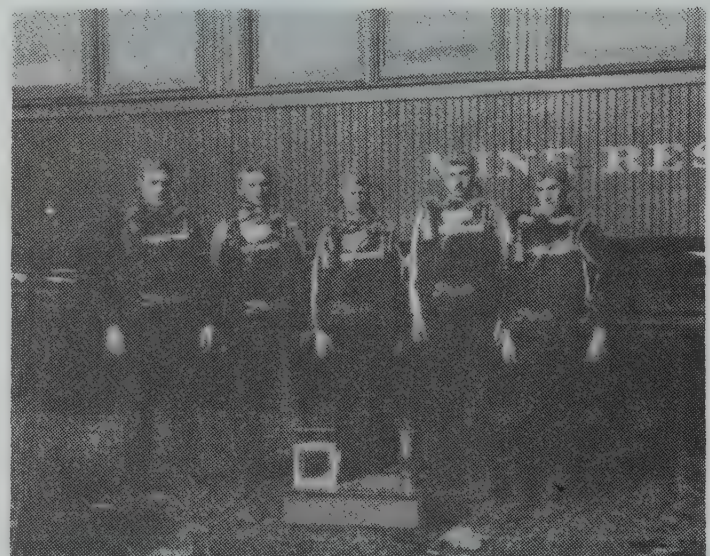
(L—R) Woodrow Conley, Asle Seppola, Walter Kuhl, William Aberhart, John Crandall, Abel Bjornstad.



Evansburg boys about 1943.



Train after bucking snow from Edmonton. James Entwistle in front.



Evansburg Mine rescue team.



Mrs. Harry Harmer and grandchildren Betty and Barney Patterson.



Grade 2 group 1957.



(B.R.(L—R) Charley Cory, ? , ? , Eva Young, ? , Bill Smith. F.R. (L—R) Edna Birt, Lil Melling, Edna Pallaster, Dorothy Birt.



(L—R) Isabel Stockwell, Arthur Clark, Mrs. Connie Waters, Jessie Macdiarmaid, Bill Goodwin.



Children of Ada and Percy Long
Eleanor, Betty, Dorine, and Pauline about 1940.



Old townsite 1942. Remember when the north road was between Otto's house and barn?



Evansburg Football team - 1922.



Waiting for the train to come in on a Sunday afternoon.



Annie Carpenter, Esther Hanson and Nellie Conley on G.T.P. Bridge.



Moving mine house up Main Street, 1936



Mrs. Delorey and Jack.



Mrs. Marcinkiw with Andrew, Helen, John and Peter.

Not To Be Forgotten

The following is a list of former residents for whom, for various reasons, we have been unable to obtain a family history. Some may have been missed and for this we apologize.

The Committee

Alec Burgess

Alec Burgess was employed in the mine. He married Iva Olson. They later moved to B.C. where he was killed in a car accident.

Bates

Jack Bates was a Boer War veteran who lived alone on SW 25-53-8-W5. He retired to Mrs. Seacoy's boarding house. He died in 1931 and was buried in the Evansburg Cemetery with full military honors.

Berns

The Berns family lived on the flat northeast of Evansburg in the early 1960s. They left Evansburg to start a bakery in Edson. Mr. Berns lost his life in an accident a few years later.

Buckleys

The Buckley family moved to Evansburg during the depression. They lived in a house east of the cemetery. They had six children, Stella, Annie, Lloyd, Evelyn, Tom and Joe. Tom and Joe served in the armed forces during World War II.

Si Bell

Si Bell was night operator at the Canadian National Railway station. They had several children.

Bennett

Bennetts bought Caudle's place just west of Evansburg. They came about 1941 and sold out about 1945. The youngest son married Gwen Parry from Park Court. A son, Jim, was killed overseas.

Christoling

Mr. Christoling worked in Mr. Yandt's garage. He was an active Legion member and started the Legion bingos in the hall basement.

Cooks

The Cooks lived in Evansburg in the thirties. They had three children, Blanche, Dorothy and Lochlin.

Coutanche

Daisy and Walter Coutanche originally came from the Jersey Islands and bought Jack Bates quarter. They moved a mine house to their farm in 1936. They moved away in 1942.

Andy Demko

Andy Demko worked in the mine.

Andy Denatsko

Andy Denatsko worked in the mine. He was injured while working. He married Mary Paskuluk and had one daughter.

Bill Dabitch

Bill Dabitch worked in the mine and on farms. He went back to the old country.

Bill Decko

Bill Decko came to Mazeppas to work on the farm. He also worked for Svicensics at Styal and in Mickey McCormick's camp. He finally worked for C.N.R.

Delorey

Mr. and Mrs. Delorey and their son Jack lived along the alley. Mr. Delorey worked first in the mine and later for Department of Highways. Jack served overseas in World War II.

Bill Dunn

Bill Dunn, his wife and son Billy lived southwest of the mine. He was a cutting machine operator in the mine. Mrs. Dunn was a great rooter at sporting events.

Early

Mr. and Mrs. Early and daughter Connie lived in the house presently owned by Stella Wilson. Connie died in about 1930. Mrs. Early, a diabetic, died in about 1935. Mr. Early worked in Purin's Store for some time.

Embrees

Mr. and Mrs. Embree had four children, Florence, Leonard, Douglas and Helen. First they lived in a downtown mine house but when Mr. Embree became pit-boss they moved into one of the big company houses uptown. Leonard married Muriel Hood and Helen married Cameron Hood.

Earl

Mr. Earl was a minister at the United Church. They had one daughter, Nellie.

Aleck Foster

Aleck Foster moved in to Evansburg in the 1950s to look after the dormitory for the high school. Later he drove a school bus. Mr. and Mrs. Foster had one daughter, Janet.

Joe Fix

Joe Fix ran the North Star Garage during the War years. He went back to Erskine where he later drowned.

Filipowich

Joe and Katy Filipowich lived in Arnupville in the 1920s. They moved here from Rocky Mountain House. One son is buried in the Entwistle Cemetery.

Frunchak

George Frunchak and his wife, Pearl, ran the hotel for many years. They had three children, Josie, Orest and Gloria.

Howden

Mr. Howden was mine manager for a few years.

Joe Hoefle

Joe Hoefle had the North Star Garage, which was south of Highway 16A just east of the court house.

Hoods

Mr. and Mrs. Hood had a farm just south of Evansburg. Their farm buildings were just across from the cemetery. Mr. Hood had been a grain elevator agent before coming here. They had a mine house moved up after 1936. They had three children - Muriel, Cameron and Maxwell.

Bill Hadley

Bill Hadley worked in the mine. He had two children, Jim and Leta, by a first marriage.

Ray Hadley

Ray Hadley also worked in the mine. He married a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alf Wright.

Harmer

There were two Harmer brothers. They lived just west of Evansburg.

Jaschke

Jaschkas came from Germany to live on a farm next to Rheins. They had three sons and one daughter, Bill, Herb, Paul and Lydia. Herb was killed in an accident in 1938.

Johnsons

The Johnsons lived in a log house on Tin Pan Alley. They had three children, Emil, Arthur and Annie.

Jamieson

The Jamiesons homesteaded SE 25-53-8-W5 just before 1920. He built a two room log shack.

Kaasa

Kaasas lived in Evansburg during the depression. There were four children, Vera, Kelvin, Walter and Mildred.

Kuefler

Pete Kuefler and his family lived across the street from Bruce and Macphee's store. He ran the butcher shop for a while and then went into the trucking business.

Klatts

Klatts lived downtown in a mine house. They had two children, Inga and Ralph.

Latvinchuk

Mr. Latvinchuk had been an Alberta Provincial Policeman before coming to Evansburg. They lived in a two-storey house on the alley. They had three sons and one daughter.

Jack Lewis

Mr. Lewis worked in the mine. He had one son Jack.

Massadori

Mr. Massadori liked drinking beer and playing poker.

Mullen

Mullens lived near Muldoons in the south part of Evansburg. They had four children.

John Marcinkiw

John Marcinkiw and his wife and family lived in Evansburg for many years. The four children, Peter, Andrew, Helen and John, all went to school in Evansburg. John Marcinkiw died in 1937. After the children were grown Mrs. Marcinkiw moved to Edmonton and remarried.

Manz

Morrie Manz and his wife Jean moved to Evansburg to operate the butcher shop. Shortly thereafter they went into company with Ross Campbell to start the Super Market.

McLeod

Jack McLeod was the first manager of the mine.

McKelvies

Mr. Austin McKelvie, with his wife and family came in the mid thirties. He was the first foreman for public works on the then Jasper Highway (part of it now Highway 16A). They had four children. After leaving Evansburg they moved to Coalspur, where he was manager of the Coalspur Hotel.

Neishijimmy

Mr. Neishijimmy was also employed in the mine, and was a photographer on the side.

Narroway

Mr. Narroway worked in the mine office. They lived in one of the mine houses downtown.

Nagata

Mr. Nagata worked in the mine. He was an expert photographer, and did this as a sideline. He lived next to Pawlynas.

Oros

Mike (Little Mike) and Mrs. Oros came to Evansburg in the late 1920s. They had one daughter. They lived in a little house in uptown Evansburg and then took a homestead in Park Court. They later moved to Drumheller.

Bill Panchuk

Bill Panchuk worked on the section for many years. He went back to the old country after he retired.

Martin Pajak

Martin Pajak was a brother of Tom Pajak. He lived on a farm about two and one half miles south of Evansburg, where he had a polka dot stucco house. He worked in the mine. Mr. and Mrs. Pajak had five children.

Joe Rogers

Joe Rogers was a bachelor who lived in Evansburg in the early 1930s. He ran the butcher shop for a while.

Rose

Murray Rose and his wife and two children moved to Evansburg in the 1950s. He operated the garage.

Len Russell

Len Russell was a veteran of World War I. With his wife and three children he lived in Evansburg for a few years.

Rebargo

Joe Rebargo married Annie Buckley. They lived in Evansburg most of the time.

Rewun

Mr. Rewun worked on the section. They later owned a Rooming House in Edmonton.

Stricklands

Stricklands had three children, Isa, Bert and Annie. Mr. Strickland was a machine man in the mine. They lived just south of the dump.

Walter Streets

Walter Street and his son Elmer had a trucking business in Evansburg. They lived in the house now owned by Stella Wilson.

Joe Solzborn

Joe Solzborn was a bachelor who came from Ellerslie. He farmed south of Evansburg on the Hood place for many years.

Skavinsky

Skavinskys lived on the Harry Smith place south of Hoods. They had two children, Archie and Martha.

Sirdowsky

Sirdowskys moved on to Skavinsky's place (Harry Smith place). They had one son Leonard.

Fred Stokes

The Stokes family came from Ontario. Mr. Stokes was an engineer in the mine at Evansburg. They had an orchestra wherein he played the saxophone and she played the piano. They had three children, Jack, May and Billie. Jack, also an engineer, married Isabel Young and May married George Dutfield, an electrician.

Seacoy

The Seacoys had a farm a couple of miles west of Evansburg. Mr. Seacoy was killed in an accident and then Mrs. Seacoy moved into Evansburg and ran a boarding house.

Suzuki

Mr. Suzuki was a real old gentleman. He would cook Japanese food and then invite some children to come in and eat with him.

Sibolok

Nick Sibolok and his wife Annie had one daughter. They lived at the old townsite near the Lobstick River. He had a homestead in Park Court for a while.

Steele

Steeles came from Scotland in the late 1920s. They lived downtown in a mine house. They had three children, Jenny, Jim and John.

Timiashi

Mr. Timiashi was a very good photographer and loved to listen to classical music. He worked in the mine.

Jerry Turney

Mr. and Mrs. Turney lived in the third house from the west end of the alley. He was the first bus driver to come this far after the highway came through.

Wylie

Two Wylie brothers worked in the mine. One had a son, Wendell. The other one was killed when blocks under the car slipped and the car fell on him.

Wrights

Alf and Mrs. Wright lived on a farm a couple of miles west of Evansburg and later moved into town. Mr. Wright was janitor at the hall for some time. One of their daughters married Harry Wheele, two of their daughters married Hadleys and the youngest married Si Bell.

Bill Whittham

Bill Whittham was the mine blacksmith for many years. He had originally come from England.

West

Mr. West was a former Hudson Bay Man. He lived on Tuke's place and was the first man in the area to keep bees.

West

Mr. West was a night operator at the Canadian National Railway station for a few years. They had five children - Ruth, Walter, Elmer, Norman and Mae.

Roman Zolinsky

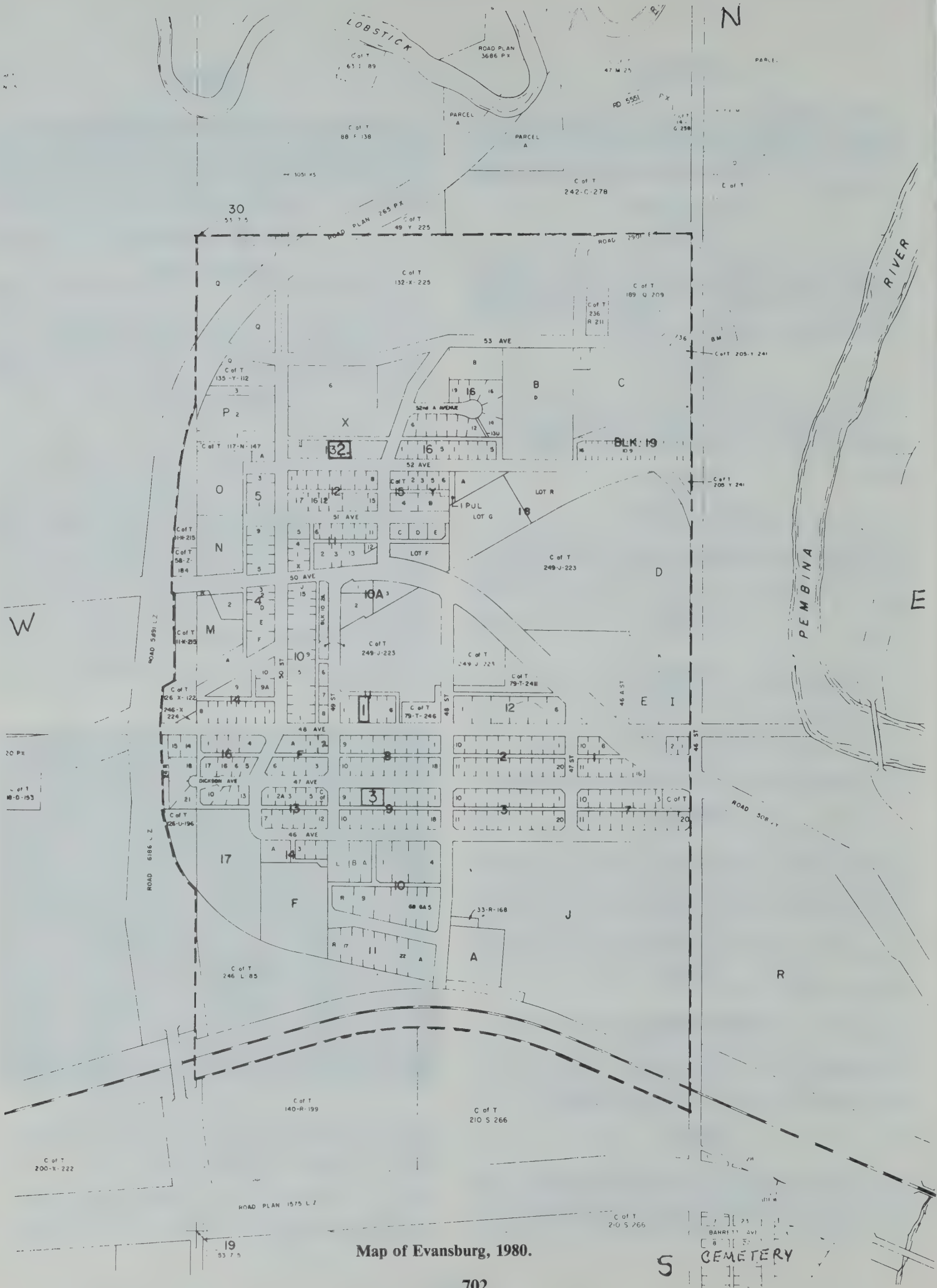
Roman Zolinsky worked in the mine for a few years.



Grading main street of Evansburg with three oxen and two horses about 1935 - Mazeppa's outfit.



Women's Institute Girls Club members in 1924 (B.R.) Jessie MacDiarmid, Mary Smith, Isabel MacDiarmid. (Second Row) Mary Dunnigan, Isabel Strickland, Juanita Hale, Connie Early. (Front) Gladys Smith.





Aerial view of Evansburg, 1980.

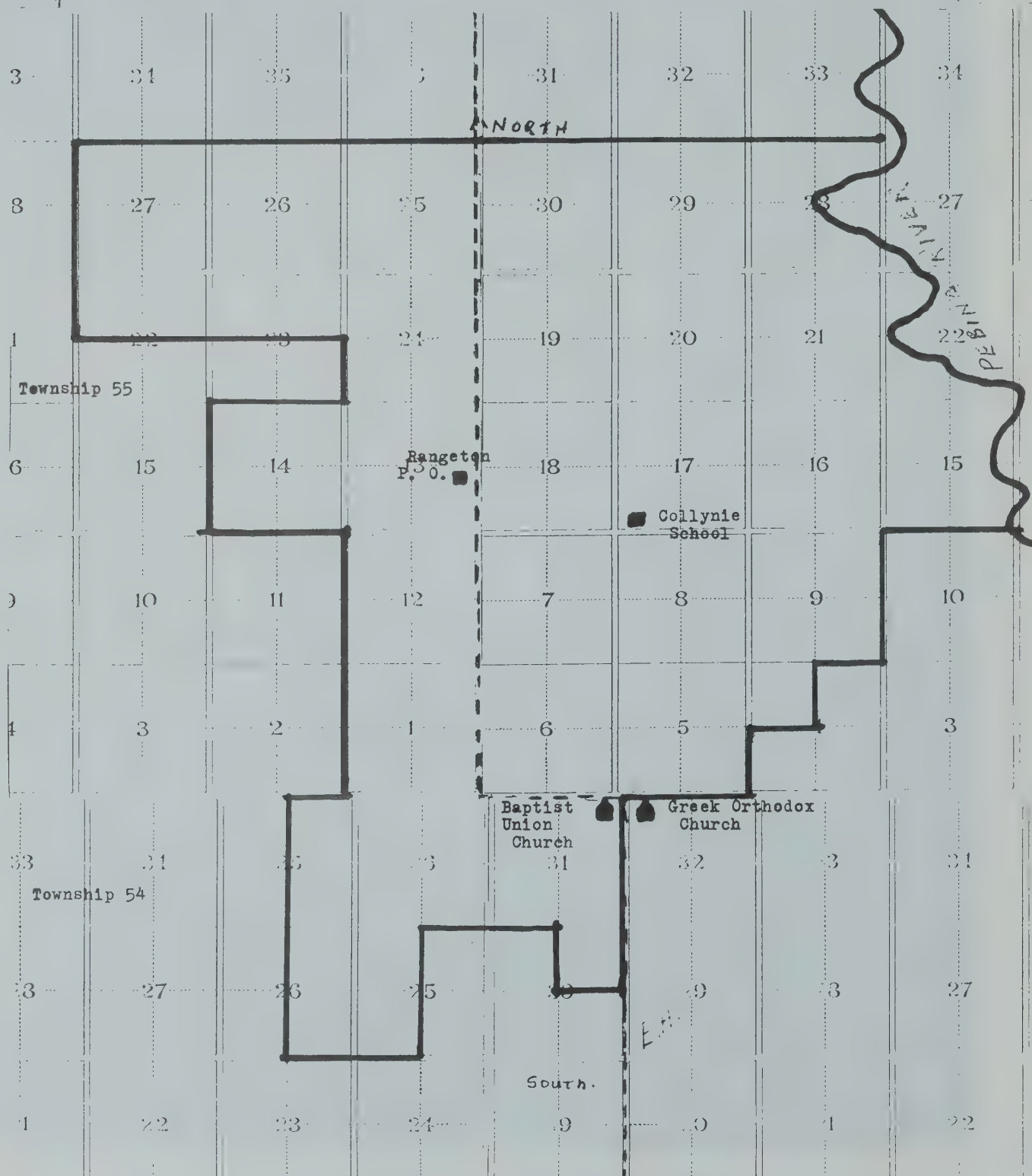
COLLYNIE

COLLYNIE SCHOOL DISTRICT #4749

Range 8 West of 5th Meridian

Range 7 West of 5th Meridian

EST OF



Map of Collynie School District No. 4749.

Collynie School

by John Wilson

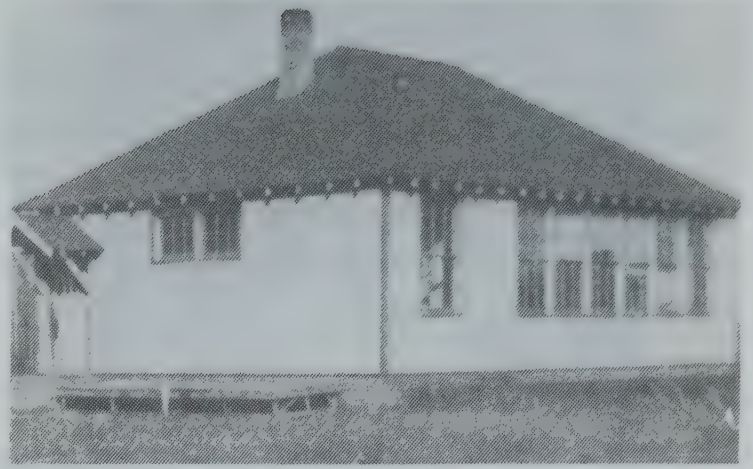
William Patterson donated the land from the SW 17-55-7-5 for the school if they would name it Collynie after the place he came from in Scotland.

The first Collynie school was built in 1937 by the Community School District No. 4749. It burned down in 1938 and was rebuilt in time for the next term. They had grades from one to nine.

Mabel and Edna Wilson and Jean Mattice were the only English speaking children in school. There were as high as forty-two children in a one-room school.

The first school teacher was Mrs. Woods. Some of the other teachers were Mr. Anderson, Walter Miegul, Kathleen Kulley, Mrs. Watson, Mr. Monihan and Mrs. Rehn.

They held box socials and dances in the school.



Collynie School



Mrs. E.A. Wood. First teacher in Collynie School 1937.



Collynie School Students 1945-46

Back Row: Catherine Kopyczyn, Mabel Wilson, Edna Wilson, Irene Luniw, Mr. Moynaham, Velma Hartman, Second Row: Olga Naumyc, Nellie Hartman, Jean Mattice, Olga Luniw, Sophie Kasianiuk, Emily Chichak. Third Row: Sophie Hotra, Alice Naumyc, Audrey Wilson, Lena Luniw, Dolly Wilson, Julie Hotra, Katie Dekaniuk, Vicky Hotra. Front Row: John Stiert, John Harboway, Alex Kasianiuk, Alex Luniw, Andrew Harboway, Nick Rosadiuk.

Mr. and Mrs. L.C.B. (Charlie) Smith

Charlie Smith and his wife, Belle, came to Canada from Omaha, Nebraska, in 1914. He had worked in a creamery in Nebraska, but always wanted to farm, so they decided to come to Canada. Mrs. Smith always used to say she was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska --over a washtub!

Charlie had an uncle who lived near Edmonton, so they stayed there for a little while. They then took a homestead in what later became the Collynie District. They came from Edmonton to Evansburg and out to their homestead in a covered wagon. The roads were very rough and full of mudholes. Sometimes the horses could not pull the wagon through, so they would have to unload some of their luggage, carry it around the mudhole and load it up again on the other side.

Their first cabin was made of round logs chinked with moss and had a sod roof. They lived in their covered wagon until their cabin was built. They had wood-burning stoves for cooking and heating.

The land was all heavy timber and had to be cleared with an axe and grubhoe. It was very slow, hard work.

A daughter Leona was born in 1917, and Belle Elsie June (Bobby) was born in 1923. In 1925 they rented a farm in Park Court so Leona could go to school.

They moved back to their own farm in 1931, where they continued to farm until Mr. Smith passed away on May 27, 1962, at seventy-seven years of age.

Leona married George Lewis and they lived on the Smith farm for several years. They have two sons, Wilfred George and Charles Alfred. Leona and George and their family later moved to Edmonton, where they still reside. Wilfred married Ella VanLeeuwen and they have one son, Mathew.



Mr. and Mrs. L.C.B. Smith.



Belle E. J. Smith and Mr. Smith's horse 1942.



Mrs. Leona Lewis with two sons Wilfred and Charles.

Charles married Sharon Nicholson. They have two sons, Wade and Garrett.

Belle married Wilf West and had a son, Gordon. Wilf died about six years after their marriage. She some years later married Fred Park, and they have one son, Norman.

They live in B.C.

After Charlie died, Mrs. Smith moved to Edmonton where she lived for many years. She died on February 9, 1977 at eighty-eight years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Piatocka Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Piatocka Sr. arrived in Canada May, 1929 from the Ukraine with a one-year old son, Paul. They settled on a homestead in Rangeton, Alberta, to farm for a living, and to operate their own sawmill. They raised six children: Paul, Helen, Walter, George, Liz and Johnny.

Mr. Piatocka and family moved to Steveston, B.C. June 12, 1942. They bought five acres of farm land and raised strawberries and cucumbers. Mrs. Elizabeth Piatocka passed away February, 1977. Mr. Paul Piatocka passed away April, 1982.



Mr. Paul Piatocka



Mrs. Paul Piatocka

Mr. & Mrs. George Wilson

by John Wilson

My parents, George and Minnie Wilson left Owen Sound, Ontario, and came west to Macklin, Saskatchewan in 1910. There were three children then, myself (John), Margaret, and George.

We lived in Macklin for thirteen years. There were four children born in Macklin: Ellen, Edna, Harvey, and Mabel. It was a dried out area, so we left and came to the Sunnyside district north of Edmonton.

George Wilson, my father, homesteaded north of Evansburg in Collynie district in 1929, and built a big house of logs. We came with the whole family of seven children.

We came out to Collynie district with hopes of farming - mainly raising cattle.

Our implements were all horse drawn at that time, and a lot of work was done by hand.

We were eleven miles from supplies and mail. The road conditions were very bad. There were no real roads, only trails. Neighbors were half a mile away.

All our entertainments were ball games, picnics, dances or whatever was at Park Court school or Park Court hall.

George Wilson passed away in 1947, and is buried in the Beechmount Cemetery. Minnie Wilson passed away in 1971, and lies beside her husband at the Beechmount Cemetery in Edmonton. The rest of the family are still living.



George and Minnie Wilson 1931.



The Wilson Family Back row L. to R.: John, Margaret Fraser, George, Ellen Popow, Harvey, Front Row: Edna Melville, Minnie Wilson and Mabel Hawes.

John and Hazel Wilson

by John Wilson

John was born in Owen Sound, Ontario on April 12, 1903, and moved to Macklin, Saskatchewan with his mother and dad, George and Minnie Wilson, one brother, George, and one sister, Margaret. They farmed there for thirteen years. The rest of the children were born in Macklin. They were Ellen, Harvey, Edna and Mabel.

John was educated in Macklin, Saskatchewan Trihome and Hampton School District. John quit school in the eighth grade to help farm. In 1923 they moved to Sunnyside. John bought a farm from Imperial Lumber Co. where he farmed for two years, then went back to St. Albert where he stayed for one and a half years working for the Burns Meat Packing Plant.

In 1927, he moved to the homestead eleven miles north of Evansburg and built a log home with his Dad (George) during 1928 and 1929 on NW7-55-7-w5. Brother Harvey drove the livestock from St. Albert across country to Devils Lake, Onoway, Alberta Beach and crossed the Pembina River on the ferry at Matthews Crossing.

John met and married Hazel Elless December 12, 1930. He lived in Edmonton and worked part time at Edmonton Motors and drove truck. Then they moved to the homestead in 1931 to live with his parents. John's parents had the Rangeton Post Office for a number of years. John worked at Mickey McCormick's sawmill and cut wood and hauled it to the Relief Camp down by the Pembina River at Evansburg.

John and Hazel had eight children; three were born on the homestead with John's mother as mid-wife, and five were born in Edmonton.

John helped build Park Court Hall and hauled lumber to build Jalna Hall where he also had a membership. He helped build Collynie School which was built by the community. People came to him if their horses needed to be shod or their

teeth filed. He also sharpened plow shares for neighbors.

John had a sawmill in 1938 on section 9 and 19 up until 1951. He had around nine men working for him. He was elected councillor in Pembina 94 from 1947 to 1951. He resigned to take the foreman's job in MD Pembina 94. In 1955 he worked as grader man. In the winter of 1955 he was foreman for LID 15. He retired in the Spring of 1969. His wife, Hazel, passed away in March, 1970. He had moved to Mayerthorpe in 1960.

John and Stella Mattice were married in 1971 in October and he moved back to Evansburg where he resides now.

His children are Mabel, married to James Wilson with two boys and three girls; Edna, married to Richard Greenwood with no children; Audrey, married to Bill Gargas with two boys and one girl; Dolly, married to Les Parry with one boy and four girls; Doreen, married to Raymond Callioux with three girls and five boys; Marjorie, married to Cecil Russell with one girl and two boys; John, married to Lynn Anderson with one girl and two boys; Trudy, married to Richard Johnstone with one girl.

John has twenty-eight grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.



John and Hazel Wilson and John's Mother.



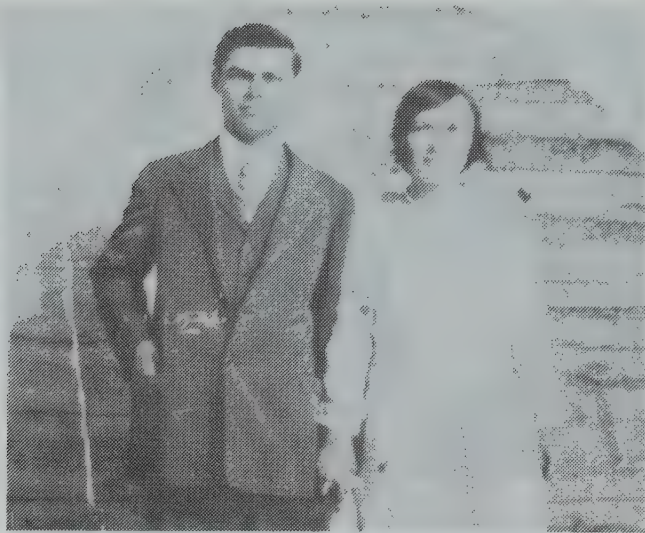
John Wilson Family

The Blahun Family

by Anne Wahlund and Mike Blahun

William Blahun, at age seventeen, arrived in Canada, in December, 1926 from Beleliw, Ukraine to be with his father who had already settled in the Lamont, Alberta district. He worked as a hired hand among the local farms. Dora Blahun (nee Kostiuk) at age nineteen arrived, May 26, 1928 at the Lamont CNR station from Nebyliw, Ukraine, on a working visa to the farm of John Pylpow. He was the first Ukrainian pioneer to Alberta. Dora worked for John Pylpow for thirteen months, then on the farm of Mike Danylyshyn, her uncle. It was here where William and Dora met . . . William was also a worker at the Danylyshyn farm. They were married August 12, 1930 in Edmonton at the minister's residence. Their honeymoon was a trip back to the farm and back to work in the field making hay.

Shortly after, William set out seeking a homestead of his own. Because homesteads were readily available in the Collynie District, William purchased one for ten dollars. It was located twelve miles southeast of Rochfort Bridge, on the banks of the Pembina River. In July, 1931, William left Lamont to build a home on his homestead. After much hard work, clearing a building site, cutting down trees and skinning the logs, he completed a one-room log house. He put a roof on, of boards he purchased locally. The door was covered with paper to stop the cold air. The cracks between the logs would be filled later with the help of the rest of



William and Dora Blahun Aug. 10, 1930.



Plastering a neighbors house, Dora Blahun second from left.

his family when they arrived.

On November 8, 1931, William brought out his bride and new son, John, by train to Rochfort Bridge. Alf Campbell transported the family and their belongings to the homestead in exchange for seven days work. Their belongings included only those clothes they wore, a cow and calf (which was Dora's payment for working on the Danylyshyn farm for two years), a dog, six bags of flour, four sacks of potatoes, four gallons of sauerkraut and a few tools. William had purchased four metal dinner plates and four forks previous to the family's arrival at

the new home. Their water supply was hauled up the banks from the Pembina River which was a half mile away with steep banks of two hundred to three hundred feet deep. The cow and calf spent the winter outside . . . a log barn was built during the winter and roofed in the spring. Their only tools were a saw, axe, hammer, one pair of pliers and a grub hoe digger. Hunting was the main source of obtaining meat . . . rabbits were plentiful during those days.

The nearest store was Rochfort Bridge, twelve miles away. The post office five miles away, at Rangeton was run by Mr. Astleford. Nearest neighbors, Sam and Margaret Chichak and Lepky Stahl, were approximately one mile away.

While William continued to work on farms to make money for groceries, Dora raised the family. She would also clear out the underbrush and dirt around large trees. By removing the dirt around the roots, it weakened the foundation causing the trees to fall during strong winds. Once the trees were down, they were hauled away by a horse. This is one way our pioneers cleared their land!

By 1934, three acres of land were cleared by hand. Reggie Mattice had broken the land. William and Dora's first crop was planted that year by hand and for many years thereafter. In the fall, the wheat was cut by sickle and made into stooks. In winter, the sheaves were beaten on a sheet of ice with a flail to knock out the wheat kernels. The wind would blow away the chaff leaving only the wheat. One day's yield would be taken to town by horse and sleigh and William would receive four dollars for about four bags of wheat. The first crop yielded about thirty-five bushels.

The first team of horses was obtained from Mr. Hagen for which William had to clear eight acres of land by hand for Hagen as payment. The horses died shortly after. Another team of horses was obtained from Brew Mattson in exchange for ten thousand feet of lumber. This team of horses hauled all the logs to the sawmill. They lived for

many years.

Social activities were limited because of young children. William helped, together with other neighbors, to build the Rochfort Bridge Catholic Church and the Jalna Hall. The closest school, built in 1938, was Collynie (situated on the land now owned by John Blahun). John started school in the Fall of 1939, a walk of approximately six miles, getting lost many times in the late Fall afternoon, through forests and cut lines. It was because of the long distance to school, which prompted William to build on Dora's homestead located only two miles across the muskeg from the school.

In November, 1939, a two-room, two-storey, log house was completed and moving day came for William and Dora and their four children . . . John, Mike, Joe and Olga. John and Mike now both enrolled in school . . . their first teacher was Ukrainian which helped to communicate and teach them the English language. Many Christmas concerts were held at the school and the Blahuns always attended . . . taking the children by sled, which was lined with straw and a hot stone for warmth for their feet. A team of horses was their only means of transportation until 1948 at which time William purchased a used truck, a 1946 Mercury, from Pete Lysachok. Vehicles were scarce in Alberta at that time, this Mercury was brought in from Ontario . .

Ontario license plates were still on when William took possession of the truck.

William and Dora continued working the farms to make a living for their growing family. Four more children were born to them ... Aleck (the only child born in a hospital) died at three weeks of age; Annie, Alex and William Jr.. William and Dora lived in this house until their retirement in 1974. The farm is presently rented by their son. William and Dora now reside in their home in Evansburg.

In August, 1980, William and Dora celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with all their family and friends. Their family includes seven children, twenty-one grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Their children are as follows: John and Ann, (nee Werenka) farm in the Collynie district. They have five children . . . Gale, married to Bernie Rear, works at the Royal Bank in St. Albert; Darlene, a computer programmer for AGT lives in Edmonton; Sharon of Edmonton is a computer operator for ATA; Maxine and Gary both at home, attend school in Evansburg. John and Ann have one grandson, Christopher Rear.

Mike and Elizabeth (nee Roszko) farm in the Collynie district. They have six children . . . Bob, an RCMP from Dawson Creek, B.C., is married to Sophie Michalchuk; Valerie, married to RCMP Brian Williams, resides in Ottawa and is employed by an engineering firm as supervisor; Danny lives at home and is an auto body journeyman at Mayerthorpe; Michael, married to Kathleen McBride, resides in Sangudo and works on the rigs; Jimmy and Duane live at home and both attend school in Evansburg. Bob and Sophie have twins . . . Tanya and Travis.

Joe and Hope (nee Werenka) also farm in the same area. Their children are Susanne, married to Larry Slemko, who farms at Park Court; Patricia, married to Alan Russell, is a secretary in Whitecourt; Victoria, training as a flight service specialist, is, at present, in Cornwall, Ontario; Gregory, Anna and David live at home and attend Evansburg School. Susanne and Larry have two girls, Kim and Michelle.

Olga married Mike Yakiwczuk and lives on an acreage in Sherwood Park. She is employed by IGA in Edmonton. They have one son, Larry, presently attending the University of Alberta.

Anne married Robert Wahlund. They own an Art Gallery and Picture Framing shop in Calgary. They have two children, Dianne and Tracy attending school.

Alex married Sylvia Hendra and is an Edmonton City Policeman. They reside in Sherwood Park with their young son, Jeffrey.

Bill married Dianne Soprovich and is employed by the Federal Government in Edmonton.



William and Dora Blahun and family 1980.

Kasianiuk Family

by Alex Kasianiuk

In 1929, my grandparents, Paul and Pearl Kasianiuk and their son Nick, my uncle, left Lachowci, White Russia for Canada. Their older son, John (my father) and his wife Barbara (my mother), were to come later after John disposed of their property.

Having arrived in Edmonton, Paul, Pearl, and Nick worked that summer, fall, and winter in the Mundare and Chipman area for different farmers.

In the spring of 1930, Paul rented a quarter of land in the Collynie area from Mr. Lewis. Three days later, the family, along with their three horses, a wagon, walking plow, and their other worldly possessions, arrived at the only building on their newly acquired land - a small log house.

During that same spring, John, Barbara and son Andy (one month old) exchanged good-byes and good lucks with their relatives in Lachowci, White Russia. They did not know then that it would be forty-two years before they would be back for a visit.

Their journey from Lachowci, White Russia to Evansburg was very pleasant. Arriving at Evansburg late at night they waited until morning to hire Pete Powlyna to drive them to Paul and Pearl's place, surprising Pearl who was putting whitewash on the walls.

They lived together for eleven years. Pearl worked with the men while Barbara did house work and chores. Water had to be carried from a creek a quarter of a mile away. She also cared for us children. My sister Sophie was born in 1936, and I (Alex) in 1937.

They worked very hard, not only on their own land, but for neighbors in exchange for a cow or use of their equipment. To earn extra money, John hauled firewood for three winters with his own team of horses to the relief camp (now Pembina Provincial Park) for one dollar and fifty cents a cord, delivered. He also skidded logs for Palmer's Sawmill at two cents a log, and cleared and built roads to help pay for land taxes.

During the 1930's, John used to catch the freight train at Entwistle coal dock to go to Edmonton. Catching freight trains on the run leaving Calder yards, was a normal way of getting home for him. Trains from Edmonton stopped for coal at 2:00 A. M. in Entwistle, then John would walk over the trestle and the fifteen miles home. He recalls some neighbors even walking all the way to Edmonton and wearing out a pair of shoes.

In 1941 John and Barbara decided to go on their own, so they rented the Grapentin place. Dan Rosadiuk lives there now.

John bought his first truck in 1942; a half ton Dodge. His friend Sam Danyluk advised him to go into the Watkins' dealership which he did, until the granary where he kept the supplies, burned down.

I attended the Park Court school for one year until John purchased the John Grisold quarter in the Collynie area. We moved there in 1944 and I attended the Collynie school for eight years, I finished

my education in Evansburg. Due to the shortage of teachers after the war, brother Andy was a supervisor for one term at the Collynie School.

In 1947, Paul and Pearl purchased and moved into a rooming house in Edmonton. My sister, Sophie, also went to Edmonton to help Pearl with the English language.

On July 25, 1953, Sophie married John Kuharchuk. They live in Edmonton and have two children: John Jr. and Maryann.

On September 1, 1955, Andy married Gloria Purych. They live in Edmonton and have two sons: Gary and Blair (who married Elaine Lawson.)

On November 23, 1962 I married Violet Supronovich. We have four daughters: Amy, Alexandra, Rosemarie, and Brenda, and we live on

John Grisold's home quarter.

Pearl died in 1963 at the age of seventy-three and Paul died in 1969 at the age of eighty-five. They are both buried at the St. George Russian Orthodox Church cemetery, in Wildwood, Alberta.

In 1967 John and I purchased the Gramatovich land. Barbara and John lived there for a number of years, before retiring to Evansburg. John is still very active on the farm.

In 1972 John and Barbara visited their relatives in Russia for thirty days. Barbara's father was ninety-four years old at the time.

Although our family has been through many hardships along with good times we will always be grateful to Paul and Pearl Kasianiuk for choosing Canada as their new home.



Paul Kasianiuk with family L—R: Andrew, Nick, Sophie, Alex. Front Row: Paul, Pearl, Barbara and John.



Mr. and Mrs. Alex Kasianiuk with daughters Amy, Alexandra, Brenda Rosemarie.



Kasianiuk family. L—R: Back row: John Kuharchuk, Gloria Kasianiuk, Alex Kasianiuk, Violet Kasianiuk, Blair Kasianiuk, Diana Kasianiuk, John Kuharchuk, Jr., Christine Kasianiuk, Barbara Honka, Ron Honka, Mary Ann Kuharchuk and Gary Kasianiuk. Seated L—R: Sophie Kuharchuk, Andrew Kasianiuk, John Kasianiuk, Barbara Kasianiuk, Nellie Kasianiuk, Nick Kasianiuk.

Mike Hotra Senior

Mike Hotra Senior came to Canada in 1929 from the Ukraine. He homesteaded the N.E. of 6-55-7-W5 in 1930. Mike lived with his brother Onufrey until he had his own house built.

Like everybody else he had to work out to keep the food on the table. He worked in lumber camps in winter and for other farmers during the summer. When Kasper Winteler set up his sawmill next to Mike's quarter, he went to work for him. It was near his home and he could get some work done at home too. He worked with Kasper for many years. Mike married Annie Warunki and they raised a family of two girls and one boy.

The oldest girl, Victoria, married George Weslosky and they live in Edmonton. George is an inspector for the Edmonton Transit System. Victoria is working in the Royal Alexandra Hospital as a registered nurse. They have two boys Kenneth and Ronald.

Julia is married to John Dutchok. They live on a farm at Chipman. John also works out as a welder. They have two girls Patricia and Connie.

Robert is single and is farming on the home place.

Editor's note: Mike Hotra died in 1981.

Steve And Mary Horboway

Steve Horboway migrated from Russia September 6, 1929 to join Steve's brother, John, in Park Court district. He obtained his homestead December 30, 1930. Steve married Mary Boyda July 17, 1931.

Mary Boyda, with her mother, Donna, migrated from Bukovina, Ukraine June 14, 1927. They joined Mary's sister, Angela Bodnar, in Athabasca.

Steve and Mary built a log house and cleared the land. Five sons: Nick, John, Andrew, William and

Alex were born here.

In 1952, the family moved one-half mile south to the farm they presently own. Besides farming, Steve worked out on jobs he could find; i.e; road clearing and harvesting.

All sons except Alex attended Collynie school before being bussed to Evansburg School. Nick, John, Andrew and Alex make their homes in Edmonton, and William resides in Vancouver, B.C. Mary and Steve have seven grandchildren.

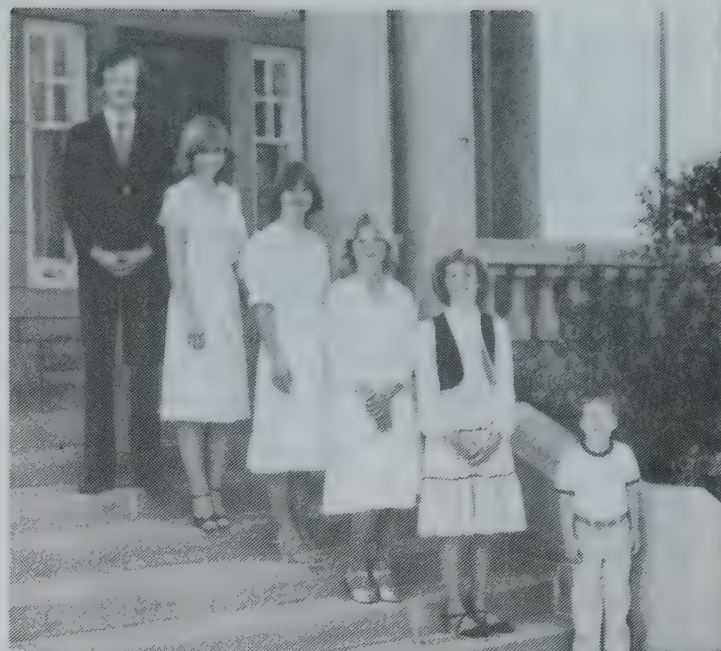
In 1959, Steve and Mary bought a home in Edmonton. They retired in 1972. Today their son, Andrew and his wife Emily, continue farming the land.



Mr. and Mrs. Steve Horboway on farm with sons; Nick, John and Andrew.



Steve and Mary Horboway's sons, Nick, John, Bill, Alex and Andy.



Steve and Mary Horboway's grandchildren 1981 from top Dana, Donna, Karen, Kathy, Kimberley, Jeffery.

The Naumyc Family

As told by Mother

Written by daughter Alice

Our father Dmytro Naumyc was born on Nov. 1, 1900, in a small village in the Ukraine. Our mother Pearl was born on Sept. 2, 1906, in a neighbouring village also in the Ukraine. They were not very well off. Father had a grade eight education while Mother was unable to attend school because her mother passed away while she was very young and she was left to tend to the family. Father did odd jobs as a boy, mainly pasturing cattle. As he grew older, he was hired on as a farm hand. Mother was able to get some work cleaning, cooking and also pasturing cattle, until she learned to sew well and had people bring work for her at her home. She recalls a very happy childhood despite the many difficulties.

In 1928, Father decided to immigrate to Canada. He left Mother (his sweetheart then) behind until such time that he could provide for her. He chose their homestead in the Park Court district; S.E. ¼-7-55-7-W5th., and for the first while he shared a shack with a bachelor acquaintance and worked at any job or jobs that he was able to get. He worked on farms as well as on the railroad for a time. A day's pay then would be about fifty cents. In the



Dmytro and Pearl Naumyc's wedding 1930.

fall of 1930 Mother arrived in Edmonton. They were married on Sept. 10, 1930. There were no buildings on the homestead yet so they lived with neighbours for the first while until Father built their first home. Mother recalls this as a very lonely and frightening time for her.

They had little money, food or clothing, tools or equipment, yet during the relatively mild winter of 1930-31, they were able to clear seven acres of land. They earned their first team of horses by clearing ten acres of land for a neighbour, Mr. Harboway. Pay for most of the work that either of them did was usually in material things rather than cash. With the bit of land they now had broken, Father was able to sow some grain while Mother had her garden. She tells me the rabbits used to often feed on her much needed garden.

Their first home was fairly large but not too comfortable so within a short while Father was forced to build again, only to find that the cellar was con-

stantly full of water. Another site was found and this time Father built a fine log house. It was plastered inside with mud, and then Mother whitewashed the walls. This was our home until 1966 when they built a modern home.

Evansburg was already established when they moved to the Park Court district but it was ten miles away, making it difficult to get to. The Post Office was about six miles away, at the home of the Youngs who were very kindly folks. Father used to walk across country to pick up the mail and that wouldn't have been too often.

The church was two miles from home. Both Mother and Father were active in the building and upkeep of it. Mother used to spend countless hours making paper flowers to decorate the altar. She also cleaned the church before the priest visited. Each year in May the whole parish spent a great deal of time preparing for the bazaar. This was always a big event and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Near the church there was a General store that was run by Mr. and Mrs. Baron. This would have been in the early 1940's. If any of us youngsters were lucky enough to get a dime or a nickel we were certainly in seventh heaven. A nickel then would buy us a bottle of pop or a candy bar.

Our school was Collynie, which was about one and a half miles from home across country. Our teacher, Mr. Anderson lived in a teacherage and taught grades one to eight in this one room school house. There was always great excitement from late November until our Christmas concert in December. The whole district took part. The adults provided the lunches while the youngsters provided the entertainment. Santa always showed with something for everyone - nothing fancy but was it special! What a great time it was despite the long cold walk through heavy snow. We couldn't go by team because of the creek that ran through the trail.

By the mid forties things were beginning to look brighter. Father was able to get more crop in and

George Rosadiuk

had several head of cattle as well as some hogs. Mother always had a large garden and did a tremendous amount of canning for the winter. She raised chickens, ducks and geese. One year she decided she would raise turkeys. She prided herself at this task which I might add was not an easy one. In the fall, with the help of the family she killed and dressed the whole lot of them and sold them to the creamery in Evansburg. Mr. Wolff always praised her work and gave her top grade and prices. I recall one year she bought an oak table and chairs with some of her profit. How proud she was!

Mother tells of a time when a large debt was incurred at the General Hospital. Payment was delayed because there wasn't cash on hand and soon the bills started coming as well as threats of an inspector coming out. They didn't like this so Mother made enquiries as to whether she could try and pay this debt with fresh produce. The hospital agreed and luck being with her she grew a huge garden. Father sold a non-productive cow and with the two combined, the bill was paid in full with, much to her surprise, seven dollars in change. This she spent on some pots and pans she badly needed, and some socks for Father.

Mother did a lot of beautiful embroidery. I fondly recall the evenings when Mother worked on her fine pieces and Father would entertain by reading aloud from the tales of "Taras Shevchenko". How eagerly we awaited the next evening for another story.

They raised a family of six, five daughters and one son. Mary, the eldest, lives in Edmonton. Olga lives on a farm just north of the home place, while Myron runs the farm where Mother still lives. I, Alice also live in Edmonton, while Jean lives on a farm one mile south of the church. Lillian, the youngest of the family, lives on a farm north of Wildwood. There are twelve grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Father passed away on Dec. 17, 1978 and is buried in the Park Court Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery.

George Rosadiuk, the eldest of three boys and two girls, was born in Mali Obzir, Wolyn, Ukraine, in 1891. He served during World War I where he was wounded three times. After the war he returned to his home village, found himself a young wife, the former Eugenia Kistiniuk and settled, as was the custom, to live with his family.

When his younger brother, Bill, also got married and brought home a wife, it was time for their father to apportion the six hectares of land between them. George now had two sons, Joseph born in April 1922 and Andrew in January 1924. Although each of the brothers could make a living of sorts, George could see that the bit of land that fell to him, divided between himself and his sons, would give them a building site but not much more.

Farming was all George knew and all that was available in that area as there were no factories or any other opportunities for a man to make his livelihood. So when the news reached his area that it was possible to go to North America to earn money or even settle there, he made up his mind to go.

His younger brother, Bill, decided to go too, so the two of them started to make the necessary arrangements to leave. Since George was on his own and his wife was expecting, he couldn't just leave. Eugenia's older brother who was still single, offered to help his sister while George was off to Canada to make a new home for his family. He sold a steer and borrowed the rest of the money from a high-interest Jewish money lender. He had to give him a guarantee that if he didn't pay the money back in a year with interest, the lender could claim his five head of cattle he had remaining. And so under these circumstances, early in 1926, George and brother Bill arrived in Canada.

Work was available on the CPR, so after riding the "freight cars" for a time, from one coast to the other, they landed a job working for CPR on a

“bridge gang”. White bread, and other good things to eat, and plenty of them, made them really believe that they had reached the promised land. The pay was good so it didn’t take them long to pay back the money they had borrowed for the trip here. Soon they were able to send both gifts and cash to their wives and even parents.

George, who had become an Evangelical Baptist while still in the Old Country, filled his lonely hours with Bible reading and study. But Bill, not having this stabilizing influence and being a gregarious individual that loved village banter and camaraderie, found it unbearably lonely here. After a year he returned home to his wife. When Bill got home he praised Canada very much to his younger brother Prokop. He told young Prokop that in Canada you could have all the white bread, butter and eggs you want, plus money, which was very scarce in the Ukraine. This was all very attractive to young Prokop who was twenty years old. But Bill failed to tell him how he had traveled from coast to coast on freight cars in search of a job or how lonesome he got. Prokop applied to go to Canada and George signed the affidavit for him to come to Medicine Hat as George had a well established job there with the CPR. Prokop arrived in 1930 and worked for sheep ranchers and had some other jobs around there. In the spring, 1934, George decided to buy a farm and bring his family from the Ukraine. He could not forget the vision of his small inheritance being divided between his three sons. (Leo, his third son, was born in May 1926, two months after George had left home.)

By now George saw how much work went into clearing and breaking the land and how hard it would be for a young family to survive. After making sure that his family’s needs were met, he saved every penny he could so he could buy a piece of land. He looked all over Alberta but finally settled on a quarter section in the Park Court district that was previously owned by a Mr. Andrews. The purchase price was six hundred dollars. That quarter section is now owned by his second son, Andrew. George bought a team of horses, a walking plow, harrows, a wagon, mower and a rake.

The house on his land wasn’t much, two lumber shacks joined together and a lean-to, but it was adequate. Although it wasn’t insulated it provided shelter and there was plenty of wood just for the taking to keep it warm. All this he described, in glowing terms, to his skeptical wife, who by now, thanks to the money he sent home and her brother’s help had a nice home to live in. But she, too, could see the much greater opportunities that were available for her children. At her husband’s instruction she sold their home and livestock, left their land share to his family and in 1934 set out for Canada. By now the boys were Joseph, twelve, Andrew, ten, and Leo eight years old. With the proceeds from the sale of their belongings in the Old Country, they paid their fare as far as Montreal. The rest of their fare across Canada was free because George was still working for CPR. Their trip overland through Germany, Belgium, France and across the English Channel was uneventful but the ship voyage of seven days was another matter. The mother and Andrew were seasick the whole time, while Joseph and Leo were able to navigate without difficulty. They arrived in Montreal and with the agent’s help boarded the train that was to take them to Edmonton.

It was July, 1934, and the country was green and promising as the family sped across its many miles. They wondered as they traveled “How big is this Canada?” In Europe they had traveled for only one and one-half days before they reached the seaport and here they were going for three days already and were told that it would take another day and a half before they would reach Edmonton! The older boys had taken some geography in school but mostly about Europe so they had some idea of the distance involved but this was more than they expected and they were impressed. They were to meet their father in Edmonton and stay over-night at the home of a traveling Evangelical Baptist Minister, Reverend E. Didiuk. Then the next day they would go on the train as far as Rochfort Bridge and from there they would go by team the rest of the way home. However, they arrived in Edmonton a day early and as they had the name and phone number of the Minister where they were to meet, they phoned as previously arranged. The Minister and his wife were surprised that they were

already in Edmonton as their father was coming the next day. By chance there was also at their place a fellow from Round Valley who knew their father, his farm, and the way they were to go to their home. He offered to guide them. Since there was no way to get in touch with their father before he would have left, they decided to go with Mr. Moses Michalchuk to Rochfort Bridge. By the time they got to Rochfort Bridge and got their baggage, it was late evening. Mr. Michalchuk took them to a family named Sarins four miles south of Rochfort Bridge. When they arrived at the farmer's place, he and his family were asleep so they decided not to wake them but crawled up into his hay loft and spent the night there. To the boys this was a big adventure but to Mrs. Rosadiuk, it was a bit scary. Everyone seemed so helpful and friendly that she thought "I've come this far safely and we're nearly home - whatever will be will be."

At sun up Mr. Michalchuk crawled down and told the farmer and his wife about the lady and her three sons asleep in their hayloft. They were furious at him for not waking them and letting them meet the newcomers and giving them proper lodging the previous evening. But what was done was done, so the farmer's wife set to making them a hearty breakfast of pancakes, bacon, and eggs while the farmer, together with Mr. Michalchuk, went to call the newcomers down from the loft. After introductions and breakfast, they loaded their belongings into a Model A Ford car that belonged to Mrs. Sarin's brother, who was visiting at the time. He volunteered to take them as far as Sam and Barbara Dekaniuks. From there the farm was still two miles east, at the end of a wagon trail through the bush. Mr. Michalchuk walked to the farm to get George's brother, Prokop, to come and meet them with a team of horses and wagon to take them home. July being the "Monsoon" month the wagon trail was one mud hole after another. In the meantime, George had left for Edmonton, to meet his family. When he learned that his family had arrived the day before and left, he caught the train to Rochfort Bridge. He got home late that evening to be welcomed by his family that he had not seen for eight years.

Next was school for the boys. The nearest one was Jalna School, five and a half miles as the crow flies. By the time summer was over they settled into their "new" home, blazed a trail that they would take to school, on foot during warmer weather and in a cutter during the winter. So for the next three years, they would leave home very early in order to get to school, look after their two horses for the day, and be in the classroom on time. And they were never late. Then Collynie School was built three-quarters of a mile away but in January of the same year it burned down. Then they went to Park Court School which was six miles away. But their parents believed that education was important and far as it was, they encouraged their children to go.

I wish I could say that they lived happily ever after but this was 1934, the middle of the Depression and many hard times were ahead. Most families were on relief but George thought that perhaps the government would put a caveat against his land for the amount of the relief so he would not take it.

He ground his own wheat for porridge and flour. He also took wheat to Pakan's stone flourmill in Wildwood. The family picked and preserved the abundance of wild berries such as saskatoons, strawberries, raspberries, blueberries and cranberries. Their mother worried about their diet but the boys grew and were the stronger for it.

Soon prices improved and they raised cattle and hogs, sheep and chickens so they were pretty well self-sufficient in that respect. Their mother had brought a good many yards of homemade linen cloth, both heavier and finer types, so from this she had sewed their underclothes and bedding as well as towels. From the wool of their sheep she spun yarn and although she did not know how to knit and was ashamed to admit it, she had the boys ask a neighbor to teach them how to knit and they in turn taught her. She made them mitts, scarves and socks. So all they bought was their outerwear and school clothes. Thus they survived the Depression and even bought additional land along the Pembina River. They homesteaded the quarter of land behind Mr. Kucharchuk's place and bought one quarter from Mr. William Hogg.

Then George bought Mr. Reggie Mattice's quarter and they moved there so as to be closer to school. By then three more children had been born, Danny in 1935, Nick in 1937 and Nina in 1942. They also bought the quarter of land from a Mr. Smith adjoining the one bought from Mr. Hogg. George had wanted land and land he got.

George found a lot of satisfaction in the practice of his religion even though his wife did not share his belief. In earlier years the families of similar faith used to meet in homes but later decided to pool their resources and talents and build a suitable place of worship. So they obtained a corner lot on the correction line eight miles north of Evansburg and built what was known as the Evangelical Baptist Church where they met Sundays for worship. For many years it was a center of activities as the families grew. But slowly many of the members moved away. Some grew up and went to make a life for themselves elsewhere so that now, in 1982, the church is used only two or three times a year.

At his untimely death, in a freak accident, on April 26, 1951, George owned five quarters of land. His children did have room to spread out and grow. And grow they did. Joseph, his eldest, lives in Park Court on land formerly owned by Louis Horz. He married Susan Udchitz, daughter of Anthony and Mary Udchitz of Rocky Rapids, Alberta, and raised six children, three boys and three girls. They are Larry Joseph, Caroline Susan, John Anthony, Timothy Dale, Jacqueline May and Judith Dawn.

Larry married Leona Hawryluk, daughter of Amil and Anna Hawryluk of Wildwood, and they have four children, two boys and two girls, Leanne, Jason, Todd and Leslie Joy.

Caroline married Grant Hugh Bodmer, son of Grant and Elsie Bodmer of Bassano, Alberta. They live in Carbon, Alberta. They have two daughters, Jennifer and Robyn.

John married Katherine Mykytiuk, daughter of Bill and Helen Mykytiuk of Wabamun. They have two sons, Adam and Kristopher, and live at Sundance.

Timothy married Joanne Bonham, daughter of Daniel and Joan Bonham of Hanover, Ontario. They have one son, Thomas, and are living in Chibougamau, Quebec.

Jackie and Judi are single and live at home.

George's second son, Andrew married Olga Naumyc, daughter of Dmitro and Pearl Naumyc, of Park Court and lives on the original home place. They had three daughters and one son.

Marjorie married Jerry Weigl, son of Frank and Rosa Weigl of Park Court. They have two daughters, Lindsay and Leslie. They are living in Edmonton.

The only son, Andrew Junior, was killed in a road accident at age twenty-four in 1978, leaving his family devastated with grief.

Norma married Pat Freeman of Edmonton and is living in Vancouver, B.C.

Andrea is still going to high school and lives at home with her parents.

George's third son, Leo, married Jean McKay, from Scotland. They live in Torrance, California. They have two sons, Paul and Kenneth.

The fourth son, Daniel, married Nellie Eleniuk from Edmonton. They have two children, Brian and Evelyn still in grade school. They live in Park Court on land that was formerly owned by Paul Bonko.

Nick, the fifth son, married Anne Martin, of Edmonton. They have two children, Debbie and Terrance. They live in St. Albert, Alberta.

Nina, the only daughter of George and Eugenia, married Jack Halverson. They have three children Lorielee, Corilynn and Bradley. They also live in St. Albert, Alberta.

Grandma Eugenia Rosadiuk passed away December 21, 1979. So as of 1982 there are six children living, eighteen grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. Can you imagine two hectares divided amongst this crowd? Canada did prove to be a Land of Promise for George Rosadiuk.

Kucharchuk Family

by Ruth (Violet) Kasianiuk

My grandfather, Steve Kucharchuk, was born on Dec 14, 1897 in Trestenets, Russia. To protect his family from the oncoming war, Steve, his wife Eudokia, and five children: John, Nina (my mother), Steven, Alexandra and Jacob, - left for Canada in the late summer of 1939.

Their journey from Poland to England was enjoyable. They spent three days in England and boarded the liner *Athenia* for Canada. Early on the morning of September 3, 1939, tragedy struck the sleeping *Athenia*. Their liner had been one of the first to be torpedoed by a German U-boat at the beginning of World War II. Approximately twenty-two hundred people, who were mainly immigrants and British tourists, were put on life-boats. The Kucharchuk family (except for John who was on a different lifeboat) spent many hours together on the lifeboat along with about sixty-three other passengers. After seven hours a rescue ship was finally sighted. However upon approaching them, the lifeboat was swept towards the propeller where it was demolished. The occupants were spread out over the water. Steve and his daughter, Nina, held onto part of the boat not knowing how the rest of their family was faring. Finally after nine hours in the water, they were rescued by another ship.

Nina was extremely ill. After several days, she discovered her father on the same ship. They returned to England, and all the survivors were sent to Glasgow, Scotland. For six weeks they waited and prayed for the uniting of their whole family. John, Steve's oldest son, who was picked up by a different rescue ship was the only one who returned to them.

This was an enormous shock to Steve and Nina for they expected to see the whole family. Eudokia forty years old, Steve fifteen, Alexandra eight and Jacob two, were among the two hundred and fifty people who perished.

From Glasgow the three remaining Kucharchuks who had lost everything they owned, sailed to New York. On Oct. 19, 1939 they officially entered

Canada at St. Armand. Their first winter was spent at Whitemouth, Manitoba with Nick and Julian Zachary - Eudokia's sister and brother-in-law who had come to Canada earlier. Steve helped with farm work and John went out to work.

Early in the spring of 1940, Steve travelled by train to the Rochfort Bridge area, where he stayed at Ollie and Tectoria Lewchuk's (Steve's half brother). Making Lewchuk's home-base, Steve scouted around and found a quarter of land in the Park Court area. The land, bought from Mr. Smith, already had a house and barn built on it. Word was sent back to his children, and they joined their father on their new land.

The family had a very hard life; they had to adjust to Alberta's climate, had communication problems and a very different way of life in a motherless home. With all three working together, they gradually cleared some land and managed to purchase a few animals. John worked out during the slower months to help get established. Since water couldn't be found near home, they had to carry it from either the creek or the muskeg in summer and the river in winter. During the winter, cattle and horses were chased down to the Pembina River to be watered.

John stayed on the farm for a couple of years, then went out to work. He took whatever jobs were available. In 1946, he set up his first sawmill just south of Nojack. When he was finished logging in this area, the mill would be moved on to the next site. He continued moving his mill to such places as Obed, Marlboro, Grande Prairie and finally to Judy Creek. In 1972, he sold his business to Imperial Oil and retired, having spent twenty-six years sawing. John married Sophie Kasianiuk in 1953. They have lived in Edmonton since their marriage and have a son, John Jr., and a daughter, Maryann.

In 1941, Nina married Bill Suprunovich from the Holly Springs area. To them was born a son Peter and a daughter Ruth (Violet), myself. Life was a little easier. For transportation Bill had a 1927 Chevy. Then tragedy struck again in 1946. Bill was killed in a truck accident. Nina remained on the farm with

her two small children.

Nina remarried in 1948 to Walter Chwedoruk of Lac La Biche. They bought a threshing machine and I remember all the long working days. The machine would make its way from one neighbouring farm to the next. The women would spend long days cooking to feed the threshing crew. Peter and I walked one and a half miles to Holly Springs School, and then in 1956 we were bussed into Evansburg. In 1959, a son Steven was born to Nina and Walter. He took grade one in Evansburg. In April of 1966, they sold their land to Tony and Ann Mackiewich and moved to Edmonton. In 1975, Nina visited her homeland.

My grandfather, Steve, worked alone on the farm until 1953, when he sold his land to Andy and Olga Rosadiuk. That same year he married Marie Hababa and retired to Edmonton. Marie passed away on July 14, 1975 and two years later on Oct. 21, 1977, Steve was laid to rest.

My brother, Peter, graduated from the University of Alberta with a degree in engineering. For several years, his job took him to various parts of Alberta. Peter is now employed by Murphy Oil and resides in Calgary.

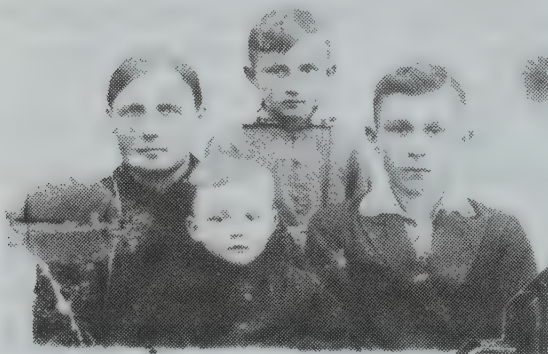
I married Alex Kasianiuk of Park Court in 1962. We live and farm on John Kasianiuk's home place. Our four daughters, Amy, Alexandra, Rosemarie and Brenda are presently all going to Evansburg School.



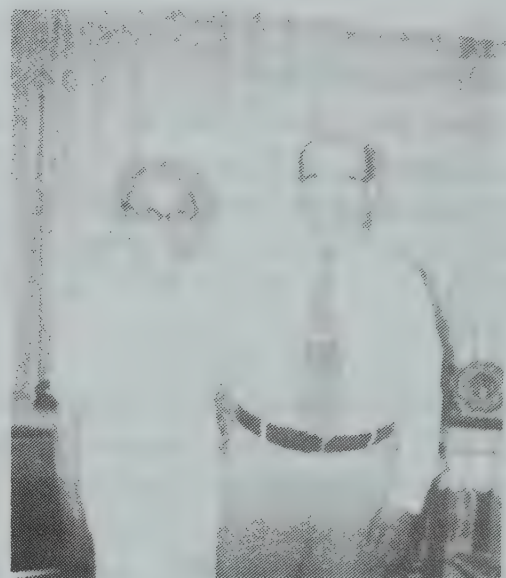
Walter and Nina Chwedoruk



Peter, Hariton, Violet and Steve.



Eudokia, Alexandra, Jacob and Steven Kucharchuk.



Marie and Steve Kucharchuk

The Larwill Family

by Bert Larwill

In the year 1926 the Larwill family came west to take up a homestead. There were Mrs. Rachel Larwill, the mother of four boys, Joe, George, Bert, and Eddie, and two girls, who came west at that time. One married daughter remained in Ontario.

They took the harvest excursion train west to Calgary, Alberta, in August, and lived there until May, 1927. They then moved to Edmonton and lived there for seven years.

Times were hard in those years and the ensuing years. Money was hard to get during the seven years, practically every family was on relief, which was ten dollars a month then.

Two brothers of the family jumped on a freight train and travelled as far as Evansburg. They went about thirteen miles north-west of town to a homestead. The Post Office and area was called Rangeton, as it was on the range line. The rest of the family followed later.

These boys worked for other farmers clearing land and harvesting and were paid by the barter system, with grain or feed as money was scarce.

Eight years later, in 1939, the two younger brothers, Bert and Eddie, left the homestead to enter the Gospel Ministry.

Bert is still semi-active. Eddie is in very poor health and unable to do anything.

Joe and George and their families and Mrs. Larwill Senior remained in the area until 1950. They then moved to Golden, B.C.



L—R Mrs. Mark, Mrs. Aileen Larwill, Joe Larwill holding Henry, Eddie Larwill, George Larwill and Mrs. Larwill, Sr.

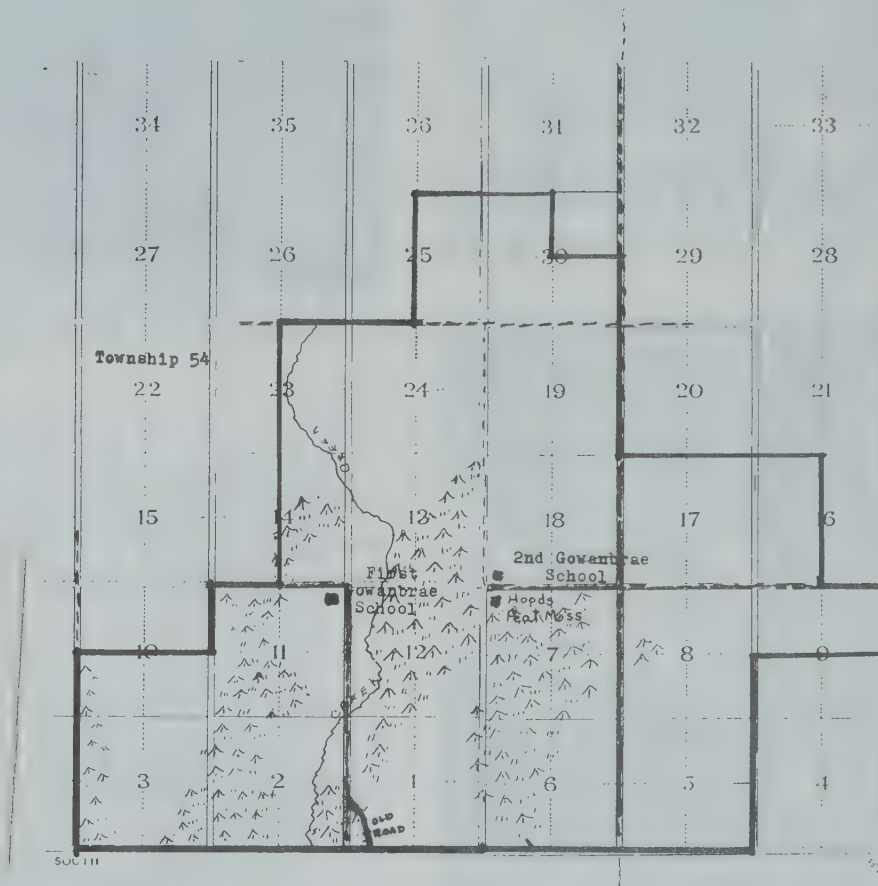


Joe and Aileen Larwill with Henry and Helen.

GOWANBRAE

Range 8 West of 5th Meridian

Range 7 West of 5th Meridian



Legend: --- roads
▲▲▲ muskeg

Map of Gowanbrae School District



Gowanbrae School 1932



Gowanbrae School - 1948

The Gowanbrae District

The Gowanbrae District No. 4334 was organized in 1928 and was made up apparently of those quarters of land left over between the established districts of Evansburg, Holly Springs and Park Court. It has a creek running roughly from north to south and is divided by a huge muskeg over half a mile wide.

Early history begins with the coming of settlers. The earliest were Colin MacDiarmid in 1906, Joe Broughton in 1912, the Marshalls in 1915 and Mr. Yates in 1924. Roads were only trails, and travel was usually only to Evansburg and the mine.

In 1920 J.W.R. McCormick, his wife and two children came to their homestead. They built their log cabin by the creek which traverses the area. Life was lonely and sometimes hazardous. I remember Mrs. McCormick telling of bush fires, one in particular, when they moved all their belongings onto a plowed field. Luckily the fire passed them by unharmed but it must have been pretty scary.

Mickey started a sawmill on the quarter where Maruska used to live on the Park Court road. He also had a mill site on the quarter where Jim Tuttle now lives.

He became a councillor in the Municipal District of Pembina.

Getting to school became a problem. Walter, the oldest walked the four miles to Evansburg. At one period Mrs. McCormick stayed in the "red house" in Evansburg so he could go to school. Unfortunately he contracted rheumatic fever and died in 1927.

By this time there were more people in the surrounding area. The Millers came in 1924 and the Tuttles moved to the McCormick sawmill site from their homestead in Holly Springs. They moved back to help build the Holly Springs School in 1925 and the children went there for a time.

The Schroders came in 1928.

A School District was organized in 1928 and named Gowanbrae. The first school board meeting held in 1928 shows Peter Miller, Tom Tuttle and Henry Schroder as board members with J.W.R. McCormick as secretary.

The school was built by Tom Tuttle and Joe Jackson on NE 11-54-8-5. There was also a lot of volunteer labor involved. School started March 13, 1929 with Edna Hutchinson as the first teacher. Eleven pupils were enrolled that term. A school picnic was held in the summer on McCormick's farm with a dance at the school in the evening.

There were still only eleven pupils enrolled when Nancy Stephens started teaching in the fall of 1931.

More families moved into the district, the MacMurchys in 1929, the Markovetz family in 1933, Pasechnicks and Charytoniuks in 1934. Millie Zollikofer and John Wonsch started school and also the Senetza family.

In the early days, the school was the social centre of the district. School picnics were gala affairs. For several years the women of the district made huge sheet cakes, topped with sliced bananas and whipped cream to complete the supper of shared goodies. Besides the usual races, there were novelty races, pie eating contest, cracker races (eat six crackers and then whistle) also once a contest for cutting out a cow blindfolded with paper and scissors.

The creek flowed through the district. One year the stork was very busy leaving six babies to families along the creek.

The McCormicks built a large barn for their livestock. After it was finished, a Barn Dance was held in it. Other barn dances were held for several years afterwards. It was the social event of Gowanbrae and the surrounding area.

For several years baseball games were held on the school grounds. Also a basketball team was organized which played against Holly Springs young people. The girls formed a club which ran for a few

years.

Meanwhile families had settled on the east side of the muskeg and their children were ready for school. Pete and Mike Semenyna, Sam Sereda, Eddie Woroschuk, Orest Rusin and Annie Maruska walked across the muskeg in the mid-thirties. Some of the Buras came to Gowanbrae in 1938.

The small building became severely overcrowded by 1940 with an enrolment of thirty-seven. A new school was needed. A new modern building was erected in 1942 by Adam Maguire of Reno more nearly in the centre of the district on SW 18-54-8-W5. School started there in the fall of 1942. The children from the west then travelled this "muskeg trail" for a year.

Decisions were then made. Many families decided their children didn't need to endure such hardship.

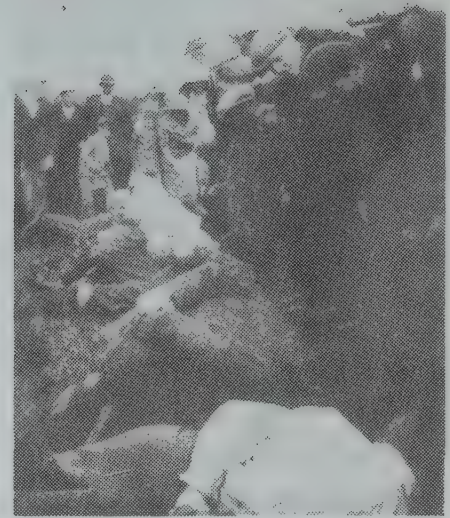
Mickey McCormick had passed away in January of 1942 and the three older boys were in the Services. Mrs. McCormick sold the farm to Peter Kremenjuk and moved with the three youngest children to Victoria to be near her aging parents, caring for them for the last few years of their lives.

The older Miller children were married and away from home. Mrs. Miller sold the farm and moved to Evansburg for the younger ones to finish school.

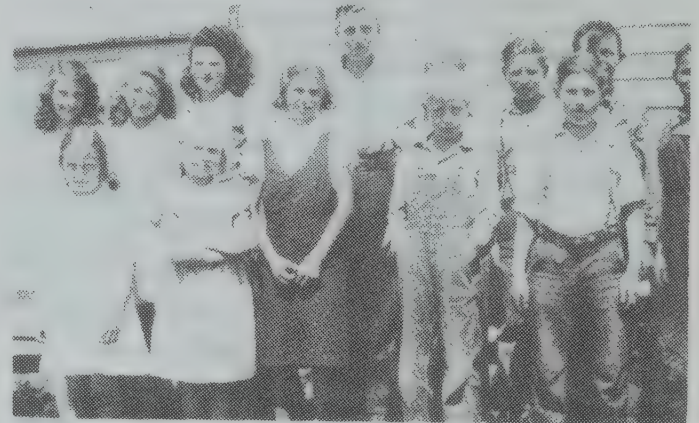
The H. Schroders moved to their other quarter in the Holly Springs District. The MacMurchys moved to Magnolia. The Bura and Semeniuk children went to the Holly Springs School. The Markovetz and Pasechnik families sold their farms and moved to Park Court, while the Charytoniuks sold out and moved to B.C.

The population of the Gowanbrae School dwindled drastically. The school continued to operate for some years until 1949 with supervisors for the last few years.

In the fall of 1949 the school was closed and Mr. Neuhold drove the children of the area to Evansburg in a covered truck. The next year a bus started to run.



Pie Eating Contest - 1931.



Gowanbrae School 1945

(B.R.) (L—R) Helen Miller, Nora Senetza, Lily Zollikofer, Jim Senetza, Alex Beniuk, Orest Rusin, John Sereda. (F.R.) (L—R) Alma Hoffman, Margaret Neuhold, Erika Neuhold, Charlie Schroder, John Beniuk.

The Gowanbrae District passed into history.

The Gowanbrae Teachers

by A. L. Schroder

Miss Edna Hutchinson (Now Mrs. Hadley) March 13, 1929 - June 30, 1931

Miss Anne L. (Nancy) Stephens (Now Mrs. Schroder) 1931 - 1935

Miss Phyllis Couves (Now Mrs. J. Worrall) 1935 - 1939

Miss Olga Pisesky 1939 - 1940

Mrs. A. L. Schroder 1940 - 1942 in the old school.

The New Gowanbrae School

Mrs. A. L. Schroder 1942 - May 30, 1946

Miss G. Moreau June 1946



Edna (Hutchinson) Hadley, first teacher at Gowanbrae.



Anne L. (Stephens) Schroder.



Miss Olga Pisesky 1939-1940.

At this time teachers were in short supply. The school was kept open for three years with supervisors helping the children with correspondence lessons from the Department of Education.

The Supervisors were: Miss Verna Richardson (Now Mrs. Sharman) 1946 - 1947
Miss Doris Hutchinson 1947 - 1948
Miss Myrtle Miller 1948 - 1949

Then the school was closed down. In September 1949, Mr. Neuhold drove the few students to the Evansburg School. He had built a box on the back of his truck for this purpose.

The Gowanbrae school building was sold to James Tuttle and later moved from the property.

Gowanbrae has become a forgotten district.

Gowanbrae School

by Edna Hadley

The Gowanbrae School opened on March 13, 1929 with myself, Edna Hadley, as the first teacher. The following information has been gathered from the Minute Book of the Gowanbrae District from April 11, 1928 to February 1938.

The first meeting to organize a new school district was held at the lumber camp of J.W.R. McCormick on April 11, 1928. Tom Tuttle was elected as chairman of the new district and Mr. McCormick was elected as Secretary-Treasurer, a position he held until 1938 when the district joined the Edson School Division. The name Gowanbrae meaning 'hills of heather' was chosen by J.W.R. Mickey McCormick for his home district in Scotland. Gowanbrae was a small school, constructed by Mac Tuttle and Joe Jackson. It was a frame building, heated by a box stove that burned three foot lengths of spruce or tamarac, delivered for three dollars and fifty cents a cord. Teacher's salary was nine hundred and fifty dollars per annum and the caretaker was a student who worked for ten cents a day. Later in 1931, due to financial circumstances, the teacher's salary was reduced to eight hundred and

forty dollars. From then on it continued a downward trend until in 1935 the salary was six hundred dollars per annum. These reductions were signs of the times, and even with reductions, the school board was unable to keep wages up to date.

When school opened in 1929, there were eight students in attendance Jack, George and Gladys Tuttle, Kathleen, Dorothy and Arthur Miller and Bill and Carl Schroder. Shortly after the school opening, Kenneth and Jack McCormick enrolled.

In order to form a new district and to warrant the opening of a new school, the Department of Education ruled that there must be at least eight children between the ages of five and sixteen in residence. To assure having the required quota, Mickey McCormick had persuaded a young man, Henry Schroder, who was working at the mill, to file on a homestead and bring his mother and two younger brothers from Edmonton to live in the district.

School holidays the first few years were taken in July and school would then be closed through January and February, reopening on March first. The people of the district were proud of their little school and the school board was faithful in the upkeep of it. It was painted white with green trimmings; and a well with rope and pulley was added in July of 1929. Later a pump was purchased as well as an organ. Each item cost forty dollars. Gowanbrae School was used extensively for dances, box socials, Christmas programs and the annual school picnics, always followed by a dance. Music for the social evenings was supplied by Mr. Thornhill and his gramophone, Fred and Wallace Lamb with violin and accordion, or Mr. and Mrs. Gus Feldberg with violin and organ. Ladies brought the lunch and were admitted free. The men were usually charged a fee of twenty-five cents. Coffee was brewed in a boiler on the box stove. There was always a large crowd and was similar to a Turkish bath, with the fire going to heat the coffee and the dancers going round and round to the 'White River Stomp'.

Miss Anne Stephens became Gowanbrae's second teacher in 1931.



Gowanbrae School 1930

(B.R.) Gladys Tuttle, Jack McCormick, Dorothy Miller, Kathleen Miller, Carl Schroder. (F.R.) Ken McCormick, Art Miller, Bill Schroder.

Gowanbrae School

by Anne L. (Nancy) Schroder (nee Stephens)

Gowanbrae was one of the country schools of the pioneer days. Its Scottish name, meaning a hill of daisies, was given to the school and district by Mr. McCormick. The school was a well-built, attractive building, painted white with green trim. When my teaching days began in September 1931, the school yard had been fenced and a pump installed in the well. The school was finished inside with four-inch V-joint lumber. A cupboard to hold the library books had been built. A special grant from the Department of Education enabled them to get these books. The long, round, flat-topped heater burned wood three feet long. The school also had an organ which was bought that spring. I thought this, my first school, was a beautiful little building!

That fall there were only eleven pupils. As more families with children settled in the district, the enrolment grew so that by the time of my marriage in 1935, there were over thirty on the register. The school was only eighteen feet by twenty-four feet, but held all these students!

Janitor work was done by a pupil for the magnificent sum of ten cents a day. For this he had to start the fire by 8:30 A.M., pack in wood, bring in water, sweep and dust and carry out the ashes.

On the flat-topped heater we placed a large pot of water. In it we put jars of soup and cocoa



Gowanbrae School 1932

(B.R.) L—R) Kenneth McCormick, Arthur Miller, Carl Schroder, Bill Schroder, Dorothy Miller, Gladys Tuttle. (F.R.) (L—R) Eddie Tuttle, Jesse McCormick, Jack McCormick, Annie Bruens, Pearl Tuttle.

brought by the children. Then at noon they were able to have something hot for their lunch.

The text books used were provided by the Department of Education. I enjoyed working with each of the children. They worked hard and did their best.

One little beginner who spoke no English, or very little, was very shy and would not even say the words I tried to teach him. Then one day when the children were playing outside, a squirrel jumped from a tree onto him. He was so excited he talked to me in his own language. After that, he would talk and soon was learning to speak and read English.

Another amusing incident involved two boys. The classes were quiet as the youngsters were working busily. Suddenly one of the boys started to snicker.



Gowanbrae School. Are you in this picture?



Nora Senetza, Lily Zollikofer, Jimmy Senetza, John Sereda, Alex Beniuk, Orest Rusin, (F.R.) Margaret Neuhold, Alma Hoffman, Erika Neuhold, Charlie Schroder, John Beniuk.

He cupped his hand over his nose and mouth, to smother the giggling. I was baffled. Soon I realized that the shy, quiet boy sitting in the desk ahead had caused the disturbance by wiggling his ears!

Teaching in a one-room school with several grades was a challenge to both the pupils and the teacher. For some subjects a few grades could be grouped together, but for other core subjects each grade had to be taught separately. The pupils had to learn to be self reliant.

Naturally the children enjoyed their recesses. A favorite game when there were only a few pupils was "anti-I-over", a game they cannot play with the larger schools. When there were more pupils, they enjoyed playing soft ball or scrub. When playing these games, all the children took part with young and older ones on each side.



Gowanbrae School in 1937.

Gowanbrae S. D. No. 4334

Attendance for the Month of June 1929

PUPILS REGISTER NO.	AGE	GRADE	NAMES OF PUPILS	1st WEEK					2nd WEEK					3rd WEEK					4th WEEK					5th WEEK					TOTAL
				DAY OF THE MONTH					DAY OF THE MONTH					DAY OF THE MONTH					DAY OF THE MONTH					DAY OF THE MONTH					
				MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	
1.	14	I	Jack Tuttle	1	1	1	1	1																				16 1/2	
2.	11	I	George Tuttle	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19 1/2		
3.	9	II	Gladys Tuttle	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19		
4.	13	III	Kathleen Miller						1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6		
5.	10	III	William Schroder	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20		
6.	8	II	Carl Schroder	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20		
7.	10	I	E. Dorothy Miller	1	1																						12 1/2		
8.	8	I	Arthur Miller	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20		
9.	9	I	Kenneth McCormick	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19		
10.	7	I	Jack McCormick	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19		
11.	7	I	Margaret Mart	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15		
TOTAL DAILY ATTENDANCE				10	10	9	9	9	8	8	10	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	10	10	5							
NUMBER OF "LATES"				3	3									3	1														185 1/2

Number of pupils in attendance during the month 11
 I hereby certify that the above record of attendance is correct and does not include any record of teaching on Saturdays or other holidays.
Edna Hutchinson
 Teacher.

No. of teaching days school was open during the month 20
 Aggregate days' attendance for the month 185 1/2
 Average attendance for the month 9.275
 Percentage of attendance for the month 84.318

NOTE.—At the end of each month transfer each month's attendance to the "Summary of attendance for the term."

Page from Register, Gowanbrae School - 1929.

NATIONAL REGISTRATION REGULATIONS, 1940
 REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

This certificate must always be carried upon the person of the registrant.

Electoral District No. 219 Jasper - Gdsr (Name)
 Polling Division No. 136 St. James (Name if any)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
Henry William Schroder
 residing at 8 Cranberry Apts
 was duly registered under the above-mentioned Regulations this 19 day of August 1940.
Robert Thompson
 Deputy Registrar.

National Registration Certificate - 1940.

Meeting held May 15th 1937

Moved by Frank Schroder that the Gowanbrae Dist. Property #552 be requisitioned for the following amount

Teacher Salary	675-00
Care taker	20 00
Fuel	30 00
Repairs	15 00
School Supplies	25 00
Grass	785-00
Grant estimate	500 00
Total	285 00 ✓ <i>WPK</i>

Moved by Thos. Tuttle that sect be authorized to employ someone to repair fence cost not to exceed \$2.00

Shannon
Frank Schroder

Sect Treas
J. M. B. Bormick

WPK

A page from the Gowanbrae Minute Book

On one occasion during my early days of teaching when it was said the mine would close down, I took the children from grades four and up on a trip to the Evansburg mine. We went in by team and wagon. Before we went down in the cage, the children were checked for matches. Then down we went to see what a mine was like. It was certainly a new experience for the pupils and myself. I would never dream of taking children on such an excursion now!

The school was used for social events too.

Usually there would be a dance at Gowanbrae one week and at Holly Springs the next. Music was supplied by Mr. Gus Feldberg on the violin, accompanied by Mrs. Feldberg on the organ. The Lamb brothers also played, one a violin and the other the accordion. Mr. Thornhill and his gramophone were also very popular. Dances in those days were the waltz, circle two-step, fox-trot, one-step, schottische, minuet, and square dances, with both young and old taking part. On one occasion, a Scottish reel was danced by Miss Hutchinson and her father to the delight of all present. Lunch was brought by

the women while the men gave to a silver collection. The dance lasted until daybreak. It had to, because the roads were so bad the driver needed daylight to guide the horses around the mud holes and across corduroys.

Picnics were held on the school grounds. They had straight and novelty races such as the egg-and-spoon, neck-tie, wheel-barrow, and pie-eating contest, which were interesting to both the participant and the spectator. After the races were over, everyone was able to sit down at tables and benches which the men had set up prior to the picnic. Here they enjoyed the generous lunch provided by the ladies of the community. The ice-cream they had was home-made and very good. The day ended with a dance in the evening.

Another event held at the school was the Christmas concert. Before the big night, my mother walked over several times from her home to help the children with their singing. For the concert the school was crowded. After the treats were given out, the evening ended with a dance.

Sunday services were also held in the school. Mr. Howard came out in a Bennet buggy or sleigh driven by Aleck Hutchinson. Later on, Mr. Richards came. I can remember a baptismal service when several children were baptized. In those days the school really was the center of the district.

John Walter Ross (Mickey) McCormick His Wife Josephine And Family

by Kenneth McCormick

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. R. McCormick moved to a location four miles north and west of Evansburg in the summer of 1920. I was then a small baby and my brother Walter was seven. I do not know why they went to Evansburg, except that to my father, recently home from World War I, it was a new field to conquer. To my city-bred mother, it was a trying experience living in an unchinked log shack, having to battle with flies, mosquitoes, and coyotes. They settled down and became up-and-coming members of the district. My father had a lumber mill for years on the Park Court road. Later, he

had one where Tuttle's place is now located. For many years he also had a sawmill in the Timber Limit. He also served as a councillor and school board member. He was the one who gave the Gowanbrae School its Scottish name - Hill of Daisies. I was ten years old when this school opened. All of us that were old enough (Jack and I), started school there. Jesse, Audrey, Ronald and Jean went to school later.

My mother was very active in district affairs. She did constant service as mid-wife to neighbours.

There were seven of us children. All except my older brother Walter, are living. He died in 1927 of rheumatic fever.

My father died in Evansburg on January 6th, 1942. He is buried in the Evansburg cemetery. My mother is eighty-seven. She lives in Victoria, B.C.

Our first teacher at Gowanbrae was Miss Edna Hutchinson (Mrs. Hadley). She and all our teachers were the sort who gave freely of themselves for the good of the community. We left the Gowanbrae district in 1944. My mother, Audrey, Ron and Jean moved to Victoria, B.C.

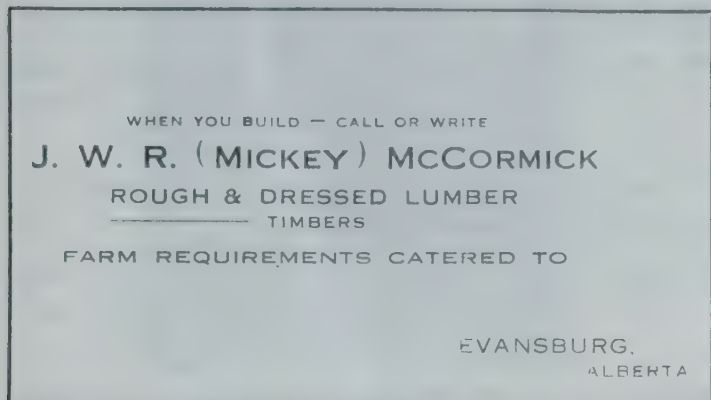
During World War II, I was in the Canadian Army, Jack and Jesse were in the Navy.

I am now a Stationary Engineer at the Federal



Josie McCormick and Annie Hutchinson.

Building, Edmonton, and also have a grinding shop. Jack, Jesse and Audrey are retired and live in Victoria, B.C. Ron is the Safeway Manager at Powell River, B.C. Jean married Dr. Chalmers and lives in Florida.



Advertisement for J.W.R. (Mickey) McCormick



(L—R) McCormicks children: Jesse, Jack, Ken, Jean, Ron and Audrey.



Micky McCormick with Ronnie and Audrey.

Thomas John and Mary Jane Tuttle

by Jack Tuttle

My parents, Thomas John and Mary Jane Tuttle, moved to Saskatchewan from Ontario in 1916 when I was just an infant. They lived there till 1923. George and Gladys were born there.

They saw an ad in the newspaper about the wonderful land in this part of Alberta. So Dad came out and took a homestead in the Holly Springs District that spring, SE 21-8-54-W5. We moved there in September. We loaded our cattle, pigs, horse, chickens, wagon and household goods and arrived at Styal.

We had to chase the cattle across the river as there was no bridge. There were three families living north of the river at that time, Couves, Sylvester and Wolff.

We stayed with Mr. Wolff who was living across the road from our homestead, as there were no buildings on our place. After a few days, he moved onto his own land just south of where he was living. We stayed there for the winter.

In the spring, the men built a log house on our land and we moved onto it in the summer.

In the meantime, Dad bought a quarter section of land two miles east, which had buildings and some cleared land on it. He seeded this land.

Pearl was born that year. In the fall we moved to the east quarter for the winter. The men cut mine ties all winter.

The McMurchy family, Mr. Morgan and Ralph came to the district.

In the spring of 1925 after Dad put the crop in, we moved back onto our homestead so there would be enough children in the district for a school to be built. The men cut the logs and built the school that year.

Also that spring a bridge was built across the Lobstick River north of Styal. Dad saw the ice jam take the bridge out. My grandfather came to live with us that fall.

The Holly Springs School opened April 22, 1926. Miss Rogers was our first teacher. She stayed only thirteen days. Mr. McFarland came and taught about four months.

Charlie Welsh, Fred Harris and the Harry Miller family came to the district. My brother Ed was born that year.

Next year school started in February. Mr. Bailey was our teacher. In the spring we moved back to our east quarter and we had to walk to school through bush and swamp for the next two years.

There were enough children in Gowanbrae for a school to be built. In 1928 the school was finished and Miss Edna Hutchinson was our teacher. That year my brother Jim was born in 1928.

In 1930 Uncle Bob came. He drove his horses seven hundred miles from Saskatchewan. He stayed with us for about five years. Then he moved onto our homestead. He raised sheep and horses.

In 1931 my grandfather died. I quit school that year. I farmed in the summer and worked in the lumber camps in winter. Later I worked on the road. We raised a lot of horses and cattle. Mother and Gladys made cheese and sold it.

I took a homestead north of Dad's place in 1932. He used it for pasture. It had good spring water all year round. It used to grow a lot of wild raspberries. People used to come and pick berries there by the milk pail full. My Uncle Mac came from the city and built a new house in 1933, the year my brother Mac was born. That winter I went to work at Lovett in the mountains for Mickey McCormick.

In 1937 I rented a quarter section from Karl Anderson, one quarter mile west of Dad's place. I bought it the next year and have lived here ever since.



Mr. William Tuttle in 1931.



Gladys, Pearl, Ed, and Jim Tuttle in 1931.



Tuttle Family

(B.R.) Marjorie, Lorna, Don, Bella, Wayne Wilson, Allan, Harvey and Russel Tuttle. (F.R.) Mr. and Mrs. Tom Tuttle, Mary and Jack, Dora and George Tuttle and Harvey Wilson.

George married Dora Markovetz and I married Mary Markovetz. George and Dora lived on George's homestead across the road from the homestead I took. They had a small two room shack and small barn on it. We had a two room shack but there were a lot of log buildings here that Karl had made. We both worked for Eccles that winter, skidding logs.

In 1941 there were a lot of forest fires around this area as it was a very early dry spring. We fought fires north of Feldberg's place. Henry Schroder's barn burned that spring also.

In 1946 we started to build a new house. Our shack was getting too small as we had four children by then.

That summer we had the cat and brush cutter come and clear some land for us. That was the first clearing done without the old axe and grub hoe. I went to work for the Municipality in 1949 and later for I.D. 14, as I worked out until 1960.

George and Dora left their homestead in the fall of 1942 and moved onto Lefevre's land. They stayed there till 1946. Uncle Bob got sick in December, 1945. He was taken to the hospital and later to a nursing home. He died in 1948. Dad sold the homestead to George in 1946 and they moved there in the summer time. In 1953 George sold the homestead and moved into Evansburg where they operated a store for years. They still live in Evansburg. They have two girls, Lorna and Bella.

Lawrence Feldberg bought the homestead and lived on it for quite a while. The house that Uncle Mac built for Bob burned while they were living there. They built a modern new house on it. A.R.D.A. bought the land and later Mr. Ponipal bought it and lived there for a while. Now Mr. and Mrs. Leshner are living on it.

Gladys and Pearl left and worked in the city. Now Pearl is in the U.S.A. and has been there since 1944. Gladys is in B.C.

Ed married Donna Markovetz. They farmed for awhile in Park Court. Donna was killed in an accident and soon after he left that district. He had two children, Marion and Sheryl who were brought up by my parents. Marion has two children and lives in Swan Hills. Sheryl has two children and lives in Spruce Grove.

Mac married Lois Rauser and has a farm near Evansburg. They have four children, Brian, Maxine, Glenna and Barry. They all have families of their own now.

Jim stayed at home with my parents. My father died in 1962 and mother in 1976. Jim is still living on the home place.

I quit working out in 1960, and cleared up the rest of the land and have been farming ever since. Electricity and the telephone were installed in 1966.

In 1978 we moved into a new house with modern conveniences.

We have five children, Donald, Marjorie, Harvey, Allan and Russel.

Don has three children, Richard, Mildred and Larry and still lives around this area.

Marjorie has two boys, David and Duane.

Harvey has five children, Brenda, Ronnie, Teresa, Jerry and Vernon. They live in Evansburg.

Our son, Russel, was killed in an accident in 1976. We are bringing up his children, Terence, Tammy and Jolene.

George's daughter, Lorna, now lives in Red Deer. Bella has two children, Tracy and Carey. They are now living in St. Albert.

Peter Miller

as told by Dorothy Williams (daughter)

My father, Pete Miller, came from Ontario in

1913 to work in Southern Saskatchewan in the Goodwater area. Here he met and married my mother, Mary Guy. Three children were born to them in Saskatchewan, Kathleen, myself (Dorothy) and Arthur. Dad worked on surrounding farms, but spent the last eight years in Saskatchewan working on the Connor and Hutchinson farm. In 1924, when Thomas Hutchinson decided to move west of Edmonton to the Evansburg area, Dad thought that he, too, would have a look at the 'Promised Land.' Two carloads of stock and equipment necessary for a start on a homestead were shipped west, and Dad and Bert Hutchinson travelled with the cars to care for the animals.

My father filed on a homestead, S.W. 12-54-8-5 and brought my mother and us three children west to live. The first winter Dad started to work on a farm for Mickey McCormick. Then when "Mickey" started a lumber camp, Dad was the

foreman and my mother was the cook. With lots of activity and noise around a sawmill, 'we three kids' enjoyed the life. Later Dad built a log house on our homestead. He used a broad axe to hew the logs into shape. A log barn and outbuildings built of slabs from the sawmill followed.

Gowanbrae School was built in 1929 and we started school. There were eleven students when the school opened. Our first teacher was Miss Hutchinson (Edna Hadley) and our next teacher was Miss Stephens (Nancy Schroder). The school offered a social life which we did not have before; and now we did have good times! We had Christmas concerts, picnics in the summer, box socials and many dances. These in particular were lots of fun. We had to travel there by horses and wagon or if close enough, we walked. Sometimes Fred Lamb with his accordion supplied the music, and sometimes we had Mr. Thornhill with his gramophone. How we



Peter Miller Family
(B.R.) Peter Miller, Dorothy, Mrs. Harke, August Harke, Kathleen with baby Helen, John Guy. (Centre) Mary Miller, (F.R.) Art, Albert, Myrtle, Grandma Guy, with Helen on her knee.



Edna Hutchinson and Kathleen Miller - 1932. Miller log house and bole from a spruce tree.



Pete Miller making sleighs for Mickeys Camp.

danced to the 'White River Stomp'!

Three more children were born to Mom and Dad, Albert in 1927, Myrtle in 1930 and Helen in 1933. My Grandmother, Mrs. Eliza Guy and my Uncle John, came from Saskatchewan. John Guy went to work for Dr. A.F. Chisholm on his farm at Sangudo. Sometimes in the summer months Dad worked building roads. He was the foreman of road building on the construction of the road north of Evansburg, and drove eight horses on road scrapers.

Dad passed away with cancer in 1936. My sister Kathleen and Uncle John passed away in 1963. Mom also passed away in 1963 after spending some

time in the Lodge in Mayerthorpe. Mom, Dad and Uncle John are buried in the Evansburg Cemetery and Kathleen in Rochfort Bridge Cemetery.

Kathleen had married August Harke and they had six children, Helen Wardlow of Drayton Valley, Harold of Moon Lake, Dale of Evansburg, Darlene Butterfield of Calgary, Wendy Martin of Drayton Valley and Barry of Drayton Valley.

I married Frank Williams of Darwell in 1940. We have four sons, Keith of Sangudo, Wesley in the Co-op store in Grande Prairie, Randy at home and Gary, the Co-op manager in Mayerthorpe.

Art married Verna Johnson of Entwistle. They had three boys, Russell of Edson, Tod at home, and Kerry of Evansburg.

Albert married Mary Wolff. They live in Edmonton and have one son. Myrtle married Hjalmer Carlson. They have three girls and live in Kelowna, B.C.

Helen married Art Killoran and lives in Winterburn. They have two boys and one girl.

We are retired now and live in Mayerthorpe.

John Crandall

John Crandall came from Missouri in the early 1920s with a team of mules. He was one of the old time mule skinnners and had no trouble handling eight-horse hitches.

He bought SW-30-54-7-5, where he lived for about fifteen years, after which he moved into Evansburg. He had a little shack next to John Bjornstad's place where he lived for many more years.

He worked with his mules when the Lobstick Hill was being cut down. When the mine whistle blew, the mules refused to budge another foot.

Once when bringing supplies from Entwistle for the Bjornstad Lumber Camp he took the road on top of the bank and down to the ferry, when the

teams slipped over the bank and went end over end down to where the present road is. He lost his glasses, and being almost blind without them, he crawled around feeling for them. As miracles happen, he noticed a glint from the sun and put his hand on his glasses. He was able to straighten out the mixup of horses and mules and harness. With some help he found the supplies and took them out to the camp.



Hauling lumber from Bjornstad's mill with mules and horses in 1924.

The Zollikofer Family

Louis and Bertha Zollikofer were born in Switzerland. Louis worked in a flour mill as a bookkeeper, and Bertha worked in a store and bakery. Louis wanted to leave Switzerland and go somewhere else. He had two cousins in Saskatchewan so this was where he went. He came to Saskatchewan in August, 1921, and worked on a farm. In the Fall of 1923, Louis moved to a homestead near Styal.

In July, 1924, Bertha Blumer, his bride-to-be, came to Canada. On July 18, 1924, they were married in Edmonton. They made their home in a little log shack on the homestead. At that time, there was a train to Styal. The rest of the way was travelled by horses and wagon. At this time, there was no bridge across the Lobstick at Styal, so they had to ford the river.

One day Louis went to get groceries on horseback. He had bought a hundred pounds of flour. The horse reared in mid-stream and the flour fell into the water. Louis went in after it because he didn't

have money to buy more. About twenty pounds of the flour could not be used. The horse waited for him on the other side of the river.

In Styal their neighbours were nearby - only about half a mile away. They would get together for entertainment, mostly on Sundays. They would sing and dance to the music of an old violin, mouth organ and combs.

A little later, Louis and Bertha moved to the Gowanbrae district. Here they moved into a vacant two-story frame house. Their neighbours here were one or two miles away. Money was not plentiful so it was very hard work for them both.

Louis used to get up at four o'clock in the morning, do his chores and walk three and a half miles to four miles to a saw-mill. He worked all day and then walked home again and did his chores before bedtime.

Shopping was done at Evansburg. From their house, they travelled on an old Indian trail for six and a half miles to the Evansburg road, which was just a trail through the bush, too. They always took an axe with them after a wind as there would be trees across the road.

In December, 1925, their first child, a son, was born. In those days you had your baby at home. The doctor was there, but their hearts were saddened when their baby died at nine weeks of age.

Shortly after this, they moved to the next quarter of land and this is where they made their permanent home. Louis built a frame house. His wife did all she could to help and once in a while a neighbour would help.

In those days, there were many things they had to overcome. Their food was garden vegetables, meat and wild berries. Sometimes the Indians would leave meat, too, as they were passing by. Clearing land was hard work with an axe, grubhoe and saw. They only had horse implements such as a walking plow, etc. Later when they had implements they could ride on, they really thought that was something.

At that time, there were no churches or ministers near.

They had about six miles to go from their home to town for mail and shopping. In those days they only had small coal oil lamps. Many times Bertha would knit and mend while Louis would read.

Here, two daughters were born to them. Louis was Bertha's doctor as the doctor arrived too late for the births. Here the girls grew up and went to the Gowanbrae School. The first teacher they remember was Mrs. Frank Schroder who was then Miss Stephens.

By this time, travelling became much faster as there were cars. The girls didn't have as hard a time to get around. However, they still walked many miles.

Mildred married James Stewart of Park Court. Lillian married Melvin Feldberg of Holly Springs.

Then in 1960 the Zollikofers sold their farm and moved into Evansburg. Here they lived until Louis passed away on January 20, 1980. At that time, they had eleven grandchildren who lived in the Evansburg area, Stony Plain, Edmonton and Thorhild.

They have eleven great-grandchildren who live near Evansburg, Stony Plain and Edmonton.

Bertha still lives in their home in Evansburg.

A grandchild has moved to Pincher Creek.



Mr. and mrs. Zollikofer with Lillian and Mildred.



1953 - Jim and Millie Stewart, Mr. Zollikofer holding David Stewart, Mrs. Zollikofer holding Susan Feldberg, Lily and Melvin Feldberg. (F.R.) Jimmy and Kitty Stewart and Judy Feldberg.



**Jim and Millie Stewart
Wedding**



Melvin and Lily Feldberg.



Louis and Bertha Zollikofer at their Evansburg home.

Louis and Bertha always said the times were hard at the beginning when they first came here, but they said they also had many good and happy times.

The Marie and Karl Schroder Family

by Gladys Schroder

Karl and Marie Schroder with their four children, Frank, John, Henry and Erna came from Hamburg, Germany in the spring of 1914 to a homestead in the Fawcett district. Here were born William (Bill) in 1918 and Carl in 1920.

In 1924 the family moved to Edmonton. The older boys worked at various jobs - harvesting, house-moving, lumbering etc. Erna married Ben Bruens.

In November 1927 Henry filed on a homestead S.E. 14-54-8-5. The family moved out to the homestead in 1928. Mrs. Schroder was glad to move out of the city with two lively young boys - especially after Carl almost drowned when playing on the ice of the North Saskatchewan River. (They lived in Gallagher Flats.)

Mrs. Schroder, Frank, Henry, Bill and Carl and an Uncle Bill came. They built a two-story frame house - most homes at that time were built of logs.

Bill and Carl went to the Gowanbrae School. Edna Hutchinson was the teacher. Bill was the first janitor and earned the princely sum of three dollars and forty cents for thirty-four days. Pupils took turns so George Tuttle was janitor for the next two months. Henry and Frank were members of the school board.

Social life centred around the school with dances, picnics, concerts and church services.

In 1928 Frank and Henry Schroder purchased (on time) a Rock Island Tractor, a Red River Special Threshing Machine and a breaking plow. They broke many acres of land - some in the Park Court district.

In the fall they threshed for farmers in both the north and south Styal areas for a good many years.

In winter they worked at McCormick's sawmill.

Erna and Ben Bruens and their four small children moved to the Gowanbrae district in 1931. They lived on the Bill Francis quarter. Anna, the oldest, went to the Gowanbrae School.

Marie Schroder passed away in December 1931. The Bruens then lived with the Schrodors. In 1932, a baby girl, Marie, was born to the Bruens.

In 1933 the Bruens moved back to Edmonton. Altogether they raised a family of ten children, all living. Ben passed away in 1965 and Erna in 1980.

Henry married Gladys Stephens in July 1933. Frank married Anne (Nancy) Stephens in July 1935. They lived on their farm N. E. 7-54-7-5 where Margaret Young now lives. Later they moved to Evansburg.

John, who had remained in Edmonton when the family moved, worked first at trucking. Later he worked for the Government. Part of his job was as chauffeur for Lieutenant Governor Bowen. He became head gardener at the Legislative grounds, until he retired in 1968. He and his wife Olive live in Kelowna, B.C.

Both Bill and Carl saw service overseas. Bill was in the Forestry Corps and Carl in the Service Corps.

Bill married Anita Hestbak after the war and had two children, Rick and Susan. They live at Hinton where Bill works at the pulp mill. Rick is married, and has a baby girl.

Carl married Margaret, a member of the Canadian Women's Army Corps, while overseas. They have two children, Douglas and Janet. Douglas is married. Carl worked for many years for Edmonton Transit. He is now retired and living in Edmonton. They have two grand-children.



Mrs. Marie Schroder



The wedding of Nancy and Frank Schroder. Mr. Stephens, Mrs. Stephens, Carl, Ted, Bill, Henry, Frank, Nancy, Gladys.



Schroders 1976 - Dave, Jim, Bob, Henry, Carl, Gordon, Rick.

The Ben Bruens Family

by Olive Bruens

Ben and Erna Bruens (nee - Schroder) moved to the Gowanbrae district in 1931. At that time they had four children - Anna, Elsie, Olive and Ben Jr. Anna attended the Gowanbrae School.

During the winter of 1932 Ben ran a small sawmill, moving to several different locations around the district and in Park Court.

In 1932 they had one more child, Marie. In 1933 they moved back to Edmonton until 1938 when they moved to Morinville. They lived in various towns in Alberta - Lamont, Sedgewick and Killam. They moved back to Edmonton in 1957.

Ben Sr. died in November 1965. Erna died in September 1980. They left behind ten children, numerous grand-children and great-grandchildren.

Anna lives at Alberta Beach.

Elsie and George McDonald live in Edmonton. They have five children and four grand-children.

Olive lives in Edmonton.

Ben and Leona Bruens live in St. Albert. They have five children and seven grand-children.

Marie McKiw (widow) lives in Edmonton and has four children and two grandchildren.



Ben and Erna Bruens.

George and Cathy Bruens live in Edmonton. They have three children and one grandchild.

Audrey and Don Spiller live in Innisfail. They have six children and three grandchildren.

Margaret and Ernest Hunnisett live in Edmonton. They have three children.

Bob lives in St. Albert. He has three children.

Bill lives in St. Albert.



Ben Bruens Carl and Bill Schroder, Ben. Jr., Annie, Olive, Elsie.

Frank Schroder Family

by Anne L. (Nancy) Schroder

The Stephens family came to the Styal area in the spring of 1927 from Strathmore, but my sister Gladys and I came up at the end of the school year.

Long before that, in 1913, my parents, my sister, and I had emigrated from England. What a change it must have been for my parents to come from the city of London to the bald prairie!

My brother, Ted, was born a few years later.

Farming near Strathmore had its problems. We suffered several crop losses due to drought, hail, and insects. Then my father read an article in the *Farm and Ranch Review* about the Styal area. We decided to come north. For a few years after our arrival, we stayed at the Gainsley (or Morgan) place until we could get our house built.

While at this place, Dad fixed up a saw so that we could saw our own lumber. One time, when I was helping by taking the slabs and lumber from the saw, I accidentally touched the saw with a board. It was wrenched from my hands, whizzed through the air, and narrowly missed my father!

On another occasion, Gladys, Mother, and I tried to do some clearing. (My father, a long-time sufferer from rheumatism, was unable to do this work). After a lot of hard work on our part, we had only a part of an acre cleared! At that time, I gashed my leg with an axe. Dad patched it up. You didn't go to a doctor for such a minor thing in those days!

My schooling was continued in the fall of 1927. I boarded with the Hodgkinson family in Evansburg for a small sum and some help with the work. Minnie Smith and I shared a room. Two other boarders were Tom Baker (now Dr. T. D. Baker) and his brother, Jim, who worked in the mine office. At that time, Dr. Baker was teaching grades four, five, six, seven and eight - all in one room!

Mr. Greene was my teacher. He taught grades nine, ten and eleven - all in one room. I was in grade eleven. One of the subjects I was taking was French II. I found out later he was taking it by correspondence at the same time! My grade eleven year was successful.

I could not get home very often because the roads were very poor. I remember the road meandering across Street's place and around a muskeg. Parts of the road across a wet or muskeg area had poles laid across - called "corduroy". Once when riding home with Mr. Harris, the wagon lurched, and I would have been thrown out if he hadn't grabbed me!

Later, road work was done, but, of course, they didn't have big machines. A fresno or scraper pulled by horses was used to move the dirt. It was slow tedious work.

Grade twelve was not taught in Evansburg then, so I had to take my grade twelve the next fall in Edmonton at Strathcona High School. The

following year, I worked for a family with small children. The next year, I attended the Edmonton Normal School. I had not enrolled there the previous year because you had to be eighteen before you could teach. After I had my teaching certificate, I taught in the Gowanbrae School until Frank Schroder and I were married in July, 1935.

The Schroder family had come to Canada from Hamburg, Germany in 1914. They lived for a while at Fawcett, and then in Edmonton. They came to the Gowanbrae District in 1928.

Our first home was four miles north of Evansburg. We lived there for twelve years. During that time we farmed. Frank also took other work that was available. He hauled coal to Evansburg from a mine one winter. He also worked on construction jobs. Our first son, Charles, arrived in 1937. A few years later, I taught again in the new Gowanbrae School until 1946. Then we had two more children, John and Ronald.

At about this time, Frank built our house in Evansburg. We moved to town in 1947, after Christmas. Frank then went to Obed to work.

While he was away, I took sick with pleurisy. Dr. Puddicombe said I must 'farm out' the babies. Two good neighbors, Mrs. Nagy and Mrs. J. Stewart (Millie) each took one. With Charlie's help, I was able to stay in bed and was soon well again. Charlie was a great help. He brought in wood, coal and water, and took out ashes and trash. He also went to the store and ran errands.

We were all delighted when a few years later, our daughter, Judi, was born.

Many interesting stories could be told about raising the children. On one occasion when on the farm, the horses had come into the yard. I glanced out of the window and was horrified to see my small son walk underneath a horse! It never moved. It seemed as if it understood.

Once when we were in Evansburg, one of my lit-

tle boys swallowed a penny. I had visions of it turning green in his stomach! Immediately, I took him down to see the doctor. With a solemn face, but a twinkle in his eye, he said, "Don't worry, lady. You'll get your money back!"

Judi was only two years old when I was asked if I would teach in Evansburg the following year. Teachers were then hard to get. We discussed the problem, and decided we could manage. Charlie, at that time, was ready to start University. Frank stayed home then and did odd jobs about town. Good neighbors cared for Judi during the day. Everything worked out well.

My teaching days continued. Later I was able to take some University courses in the evening. I also took some classes during the summer time. Finally, I had my Bachelor of Education degree. Our son, Ronald, graduated at the same time.

Then we decided to travel. Our first trip was in 1967 when we went with Charlie and Marilyn and their two boys to Expo. In 1969, we had a wonderful trip to Europe. First we visited in England, and then went to Germany where we again visited relatives. After this, we went to Switzerland, back to Holland, England, and home. The following summer, we had a trip to the coast.

Frank passed away suddenly in November, 1970 from a heart attack. He is buried in the Evansburg



Frank, Nancy, Charlie and John Schroder.



John, Judy and Ron Schroder.



Ted Stephens, Henry, Frank, and Bill Schroder, John and Ron Schroder, Jim Schroder.

cemetery. I was thankful then to have my teaching to keep me busy.

When I retired in 1976, I had taught for thirty-two years. I even taught some of the third generation.

Our children are all married. They all live in Alberta.

Charlie and Marilyn live in St. Albert. They have four children; Scott, Geoff, Pam and Penny. Charlie is President of ATECS and is an educational consultant.

John and Veronica and their two boys, John and Frank, live in Lac La Biche. John is an engineer

working for Alberta Transportation. Veronica is teaching school.

Ron and Nina live in Hinton. They have two children; Michael and Natalie. Ron is the vice principal of the Crescent Valley School.

Brian and Judi Leece live in Calgary. They have three little boys; Jeremy, Adam and Nathan. Judi has her degree in Home Economics, and Brian is an engineer.

If I had my life to live over, I would do the same. I feel my careers as homemaker and teacher were both important. Our children had the opportunity to fulfil their potential. But I do wish I had kept a complete list of all the children I have taught!



Mr. R. Young, Sr., Frank Schroder, holding Judy, Nancy Schroder, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Stonehocker in 1952.



Mickey McCormick's Sawmill 1935-36.



McCormick's Sawmill

Limit for many years. During the war years he sawed in the Carnwood area (near Breton) for Eccles and then when Eccles moved to Obed, he sawed on the Berland River site.

In winter he worked at the mill; in summer he farmed and in the fall threshed for neighbors in the days when farmers helped each other out with their teams going from one farm to the next. In the forties he sold the threshing outfit to Bill Suprunovich. Henry was separator man for him and later for Walter Chwedoruk until combines came into use.

When the local telephone line was put through Henry was part of the crew.

We were married in 1933. I, Gladys Stephens, had been teaching for four years and had to learn to be a farmer's wife. It was during the Depression but we didn't realize it was so bad and everyone else was in the same boat. We made our own fun, did without, made over and made do. On the farm we had big gardens. There were lots of berries to pick (we had a wonderful blueberry patch). We had our own milk, cream, eggs and meat. I remember we made block cheese at one time from our milk. We also tried making syrup from sugar beets. The syrup didn't work out all that well; it was bitter and dark.

During the War Years when sugar was rationed I had a couple of hives of bees and they did very well. But I had to look after them - no one else would touch them.

When we lived in the Gowanbrae district I boarded the school teacher. One teacher, Olga Pisesky, had scarlet fever - we were quarantined for a month. The school was on the school section, a quarter mile away. Here was the centre of the district for dances, picnics, concerts and Sunday Services. Baseball and basketball were played at times.

We raised three boys Bob, Jim and David. When they were small I had someone to help with chores when Henry was away.

The spring of 1941 was hot and dry. A bush fire



McCormick's Sawmill Crew

(B.R.) Frank Schroder, Len Embree, Tichon Kitaguichi, Massa Kitaguichi. (F.R.) Harry Watson, Henry Stroschin, Newt Gammond, Willis Morgan, Pete Miller, Bill Schroder, Bill Mark, Henry Schroder, Lawrence Mark, Mosel.

The Henry Schroder Family

by Gladys Schroder

Henry Schroder was born April 16, 1904 in Hamburg, Germany. He moved with his mother and three brothers to the Gowanbrae district in 1928 to S.E. 14-54-8-5. He also bought S.W. 15-54-8-5. He worked in Mickey McCormick's saw mill first as a tail-sawyer when Henry Dewald was sawyer and then as sawyer. He was a sawyer for over thirty years, first with McCormick's until Mr. McCormick passed away in 1942 and then for Lorenzo and Claude Eccles until 1957. He sawed in the Timber

had passed across our pasture into the muskeg and died down. There came a day with a terrifically high wind. Dormant fires came to life. A particularly strong gust blew burning muskeg under our new log barn. It caught on fire and there was nothing we could do. Fortunately neighbours rescued our horses and kept the fire from catching on to the house. Henry was away at Carnwood and came home expecting to take his family to the May 24th picnic at Wildwood. Instead we had to stay home to watch a smoldering manure pile, not daring to leave.

Henry built a make-shift barn that fall from slabs. The next year a new school was built across the muskeg ("the centre of the district"). For one year Bob walked over the muskeg and across the creek. We decided to move to our other farm two miles away, which was in the Holly Springs district.

Most of the families in the original Gowanbrae district decided to move. It was the end of a community.

We moved in the fall of 1943. The schools were closed for six weeks that fall because of polio. In October, Bob started Grade two in the Holly Springs School. Mrs. Brenenstuhl was the teacher.

When the boys were little I helped Henry with haying and harvesting. He drove the tractor and I rode the binder, (I never drove the tractor as the first time I tried I almost ran into the fence).

I took pride in keeping the rows of bundles straight. However when anyone passed on the road I always waved (we knew everyone then). By reflex action down would go the reel, and I would also trip the bundle - carrier which led to some erratic looking rows! I broke more slats that way.

I would help stook and would take great pride in having most of the stooks remain standing.

I had a pressure-cooker then and used it to get quick meals. A lunch was packed and left on the table for the boys to bring out when they came home from school. Then they would take my place. I really enjoyed those days.

When winter came the boys and I did the chores and kept things going. They made their own skating rink and learned to skate. In summer they sometimes went to camp. All three boys belonged to the Army Cadets under Mr. Wade, and went to Vernon Cadet Camp. David was in the Guard of Honor when Princess Margaret paid an official visit to British Columbia.

All three boys belonged to the 4H Calf Club and Forage Club and were kept busy with their calves and field plots. They had trips to Vermilion, Olds and to the Dairymen's Conventions. They also took an active part in the 4H Achievement Days.

All three attended Holly Springs for their elementary schooling and then to Evansburg for high school. At the time David started high school, the Holly Springs School was closed and all children were bussed in.

Bob took Grade eleven and then went to the Vermilion Agricultural College for two years. He graduated in 1956. In 1957 he married Donna Kelly. They had two boys Rick and Gordon. Bob became a Stationary Engineer and is now Chief Engineer at the Alberta Hospital in Ponoka.

Jim graduated from Evansburg High School in 1957. He worked for the Department of Agriculture, Blood Testing for a few years. He was the 4H Lobstick Beef Club Leader from 1961-1964. Now he is farming and lives on the home place raising beef cattle.

David graduated from Evansburg High School in 1960 and from the University of Alberta in 1964. In 1965 he married Valerie Sue Barton. David received his Masters degree from the University of Alberta and his Ph. D. from the University of Minnesota.

David is now Supervisor of Food Research with the Alberta Dept. of Agriculture. They have two girls.

In 1957 Henry retired from saw-milling but kept on farming. He was active in the Credit Union of Evansburg and the Community League of Holly Springs.

As there was a shortage of teachers I went back in 1958 teaching for another eighteen years in the Primary Division, first in the Evansburg School and then at Evansview School. I retired in 1976 and still live on the farm.

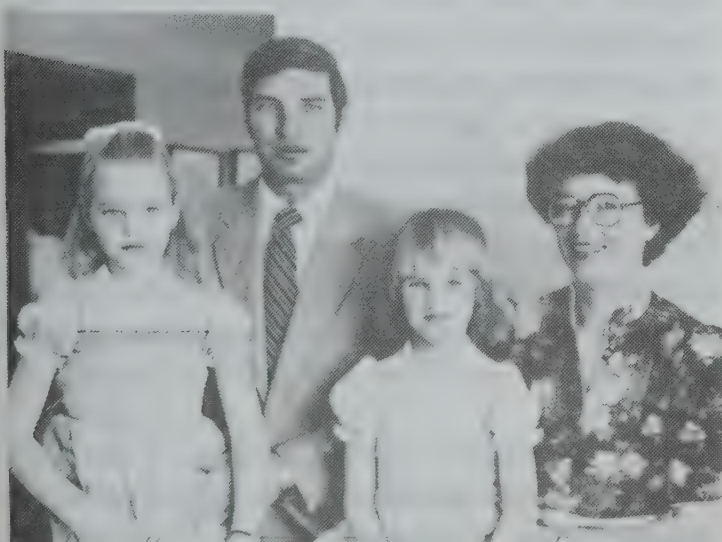
Henry passed away in March, 1977.



Henry and Gladys Schroder with Bob, Jim and David 1943.



Henry Schroder, Sawyer at McCormick's camp. Peter Nielson Tail Sawyer.



Dave and Sue Schroder, Jennifer, Megan.

Adolph Hoffman

by Alma Johnson

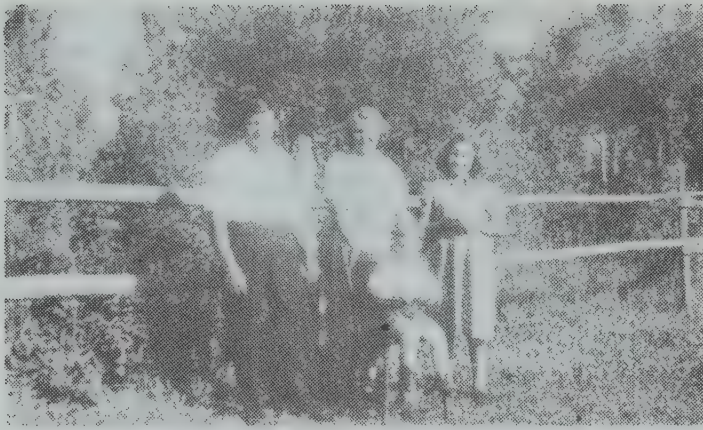
After coming to Canada from Switzerland in the early 1930's Adolf Hoffman homesteaded a quarter section of bushland in the Gowanbrae area. He also worked as a farm hand in the Hanna and Craigmyle areas, mostly during harvest seasons, while "proving up" his homestead.

After getting a few acres cleared and a few buildings set up, he married Miss Matilda Wonsch. In December 1936 a daughter, Alma, was born.

Money was hard to come by and times were tough, but a living was eked out by milking cows, raising hogs and chickens and selling cream and eggs. Land was cleared by hand with an axe. A grub-hoe was used to dig out the stumps. Later dynamite was made available and the stumps were blown out. Horses were used for "horsepower" in farming the land as well as for travelling to town and to visit the neighbours. A large garden and potato plot were a part of every farm's landscape. Wild rabbits sometimes raised havoc with the cabbage and lettuce if the garden was away from the farm buildings. To supplement the family income, he worked in logging camps for a number of winters.

In February of 1946 a son, Arthur, was born in an Edmonton hospital. In December of 1951, Mr. Hoffman passed away at the age of forty-nine years. He was pre-deceased by an infant son and both are buried in the Evansburg Cemetery. His family continued to live on the farm until the fall of 1952 when an auction sale was held. The family moved to Evansburg and the farm was sold to Mr. Udchidtz.

Alma worked in the store for Tom Bell and for AGT in the telephone office before marrying Norm Johnson of Entwistle in December of 1955. After living in Entwistle and at Campbell River, B.C., they moved to a farm at Moon Lake. The farm is now known as the Rafter "N" Ranch, where registered Polled Hereford cattle are raised for breeding stock. Two sons were born, Ralph in 1956 and Glenn in 1958. Both attended school in Ent-



Adolf and Matilda Hoffman, Alma and Art in 1949.



(B.R.) Mrs. Jaschke, Mr. C. Wonsch, Mrs. Otto, Mrs. Rhein, Mrs. Hoffman, (F.R.) Mr. Jaschke, Mr. Otto, Mr. Rhein holding baby, Mr. Hoffman.

wistle and graduated from Grand Trunk in Evansburg. Ralph married Colleen Stewart of Drayton Valley in 1976 and they now have two boys. Ralph is employed by Cities-Service of Canada Ltd. At present they live in Lloydminster, Alberta. Glenn married Charlene Woloszyn of the Brightwood area in 1981 and they live here on the Ranch. Glenn operates a road grader for the County of Parkland out of Drayton Valley. He also raises cattle.

Arthur Hoffman married Sharon Valentine of Wildwood in 1968 and they reside in the Village of Entwistle. They have two children, Clifford and Angela. Both are still in school. Art is presently employed as a maintenance electrician for Manalta Coal at Sundance.

Mrs. Hoffman continues to reside in Evansburg and takes great pride in her vegetable garden and beautiful flowers.

Mike and Anastazia Maruska

Mike Maruska was born September 21, 1899, at

Iza, Czechoslovakia, the eldest of six children. He attended school for two years, then worked with his father hauling freight. From 1917 until 1918, he served in the Austrian Army. He arrived in Quebec City, May 10, 1924. Winnipeg was designated on his visa, but on arrival no employment was available. He was sent by train to Lamont, where he worked for farmers until autumn.

During the next four years Mike worked for the Northwest Lumber Company at Whitecourt, farmers in the Leduc area, C.N.R. on the Prince Rupert Line (Nass, B.C.) and the Fraser Lumber Company at Berry Moor. Here he earned forty-five dollars a month.

In the spring of 1928 he arrived at Evansburg and obtained employment with the C.N.R. On a Sunday while strolling in the sun, he met Anastazia Swystun. She was a guest of the Poulin's and was out for a walk with Mrs. Marysiuk.

Anastazia Swystun was born February 1, 1903, at Nastonichi, Ukraine, the third eldest of eight children and had no formal education. She worked on her parent's farm until leaving for Canada with her cousin, Kay Swystun (Poulin).

The spring of 1924, she left her home, arriving at Tom and Mary Mazeppa's in Evansburg, during the month of October. Anastazia remained at Evansburg until after the New Year, then ventured to Edmonton and began working in the kitchen of the General Hospital. Room and board was provided. She earned twenty-two dollars a month and remained there until her marriage to Mike Maruska.

Mike and Anastazia were married at St. Josephat's Cathedral in Edmonton, August 14, 1928. Friends, Paul and Mary Wenzak, had a reception for them in their home. The newly-weds arrival at Evansburg produced another reception and dance at the home of Pete and Kay Poulin.

Their first home was small, rented, near the cemetery, and displayed meager beginnings. Wooden crates served as a table, until Pete Poulin manufactured one for them. Their second home,

also rented, was larger and more central. (where Young's lived). In 1932, they purchased a homestead for ten dollars, four and a half miles north of Evansburg. It had been a former lumber camp and had five acres of cleared land. On part of this clearing a home was erected by Pete Poulin and Bill Parada. In May 1933 Tom Mazeppa moved the family and their possessions with a hayrack to the new home. When the Lobstick river was reached and the road ahead looked threatening, Anastazia ordered Tom to stop. She disembarked and walked up the steep and winding hill, following the wagon with an infant in one arm and a toddler by the hand.

Mike worked for Pembina Collieries from 1929 until 1936 laying track and loading coal. When the mine closed at Evansburg he continued to work for mining companies at Wabamun and Mercoal. When their operations closed he worked in lumber camps and for a time he also worked for Charlie Ostertag at Pembina Peerless Coal.

Life on the homestead was simple but required ingenuity and perseverance. Land was cleared by hand and large stumps were dynamited. Ground was broken with horses, only to uncover roots and rocks which had to be picked by hand. First crops were hand seeded, cut by hand, and flailed. Gardens were grown, usually massive, so there would be some for the worms and some for the gardener and some for any others who perhaps had not had a good yield. Cows, pigs, and chickens were a vital part of the environment, they provided, milk, eggs, cheese, butter and meat. Butter was made during the summer and stored in crocks for the winter. Meat was either fresh (in small quantities) or smoked or canned. Wild berries were picked and preserved for the cold months. Wood was cut by hand and piled to dry for use in cooking and heating. Hay was cut with a scythe, raked by hand with homemade wood rakes and coiled, then either stacked or put in a loft for feed.

Farmers worked together during the harvest season, moving from one farm to the next with their respective teams, following Casper Winteler



Mr. and Mrs. Mike Maruska.



Joe, Annie and Elizabeth Maruska



Mr. and Mrs. Mike Maruska with family.

who had the tractor and threshing machine. Grain was hauled to the elevator in Evansburg with sleighs and the town children received their pioneer experience by standing on the runners or hanging on behind and getting a ride. Cream, eggs, and poultry were shipped to Edmonton by train for marketing until the creamery was established in Evansburg. Every Saturday grain was crushed at Winteler's place for ten cents a sack. Here the boys would have an opportunity to do a bit of socializing while waiting in line for their turn.

The closest neighbors were Abel Bjornstad and Mrs. Tito, who lived approximately one half a mile north. Several years later two bachelors lived across the road, Joe Nolan, who trapped for a living and Mr. Crandall who was there for a brief time.

The road was a wagon trail winding around obstacles such as sloughs or muskeg and for many years was maintained and rebuilt with horsepower and manpower. A natural spring about one hundred yards north of the house and alongside the road was where travellers refreshed themselves or their horses, on the journey to or from Evansburg.

During the winter, many would come into the house to escape the bitter cold and enjoy some warm hospitality in the form of tea or whatever else was available. If the weather was inclement they would spend the night. Two such travellers were horrified to find their staples missing when they returned from a tour of the garden. An enterprising young son of about four had put their purchases away in their proper place in the house.

Mass was said in the living room of Mr. and Mrs. John Harboway's home until St. John's Greek Catholic Church was built at Park Court corner. Entertainment was mainly visiting other families in the area or being visited. Gowanbrae School was where many Christmas concerts and picnics were held. The picnics included sporting events such as races for all age groups. Dances in the school after a concert or picnic were always well attended. The dances at Park Court hall were pleasant outings. Comforters or blankets would be taken to put tired children down on to sleep.

Gowanbrae School was a one room wooden structure with a gas drum for a stove. Grades one to nine were taught by Miss Phyllis Couves, then Miss Pisesky, followed by Mrs. Nancy Schroder. Children arrived from the surrounding area usually on foot, down roads, through fields or trails in the bush. A more centrally located school was built across from Hood's Peat Moss Plant. Mrs. Schroder taught there from 1942 until the spring of 1945. There was a critical shortage of teachers, so for the next four terms the children attended classes at the school and completed their grades through correspondence with the aid of a supervisor.

The fall of 1949 Mr. Neuhold transported students to Evansburg in his modified truck. The following year a bus was provided by the division. The new school in the clearing with the separate cloak rooms, gleaming maple floors, and a small library, became history.

Shopping at Evansburg was usually an all day affair. Staples were purchased at Purin's or Macphree's. Mail and confectionery were obtained at Bell's place which also served as the Bus Depot and had a telephone. A walk across the railroad bridge to Entwistle provided a change in shopping and on occasion visiting of family or friends would be included.

After 1952, Mike devoted his time to the farm and just prior to retirement raised his first three quarter Limousin calf. He showed it in Calgary at the Limousin Show and Sale the fall of 1973, where the calf was sold. For Mike this was a timely and touching finale to forty years of homesteading.

The Maruska's lived on the farm until November, 1975, then retired to a new home in Evansburg. The farm remains in the family. They have three children and eight grandchildren. Anne married Bert Richards. They reside in Edmonton and have a daughter Dianne and a son Dean. Joe married Mel Van Heron. They live in Calgary and have a daughter Carmine. Liz married John Lauer. Their home is in Evansburg and they have five daughters; Tammy, Michele, Theresa, Jacalyn and Joanne.



Gowanbrae School Children - 1947

(B.R.) Helen Miller, Erika Neuhold, Anne Maruska, Alex Beniuk, Joe Maruska, John Beniuk, John Sereda, Charlie Schroder, Miss Verna Richardson. (F.R.) Margaret Neuhold, Alma Hoffman, with Elizabeth in front, Frank Neuhold and ?

Alpha Presho

Alpha Presho, the Irishman, came from Missouri with his brother, sister and brother-in-law. They first went to the Peers area where the other three settled. Alf worked for John Bjornstad for a time and in 1930 he took his homestead SW-18-54-7-W5. He stayed around this part of the country for several years, working in camps and doing odd jobs. He then moved to the Peers area where he lived for the rest of his life.

He always claimed to be "the best checker player in Alberty" and "the best stooker in Alberty". As far as we know no one disputed his claim although many doubted it.

He was a great lover of heavy horses and always had a team or two to tell about.

John and Dora Rusin

by Orest Rusin

John Rusin came to the Gowanbrae District on July 20, 1933. He and a friend came with two sets of horses and wagons. They drove all the way with the teams from Mundare, Alberta. It took them three days to make this trip. From the main road north of Evansburg, they had to chop a road through the bush for almost a mile to get to their land. Mr. Rusin came to this particular area because the land was cheap. He bought this quarter for four

hundred dollars from the mining company that was operating in Evansburg.

On September 20, 1933, his wife, Dora, and son, Adam, came by car and joined him. They had to live in a tent while a log house was being built. When it was finished, a barn was built. Then some land was cleared by hand.

In the summer of 1934, another son, Orest, was born. He still lives on the farmstead. The other son, Adam, lives on Joe Nagy's place a mile away.

That same summer John went back to Mundare with a team and a wagon and brought back a small breaking plow, a sleigh, a six-H.P. engine, a saw, and grain crusher. He couldn't load the grain drill because the load was too big. It came by C.N.R. for five dollars.

It was nearly all hard work, but they didn't give up. They farmed until 1974. Then they built a house in Evansburg where they still reside.

Mr. & Mrs. Rusin have six grandchildren. They are Marie, Doreen, and John Woroschuk, and Stanley, Shirley and John Rusin. They also have three great grandsons.

John Semenyna

John Semenyna came to Canada from Poland in 1927, so his family could have a better life. He came over by himself, leaving his wife Julia, and two sons, Mike and Pete in Poland.

He worked mainly around the Leduc area for farmers. His plan was to make enough money to go back to Poland and bring his family over. The Depression, poor health, and a lengthy illness delayed his family's immigration to Canada for twelve years. John's wife Julia and his two sons finally arrived in Canada in February of 1939. They travelled from Poland to Alberta by boat and train. The entire trip took about three or four weeks.

When John Semenyna's family arrived, he took them to their farm which was located six miles north of Evansburg. It had been bought for five hundred dollars. It is presently the home of Pete Semenyna.

The farm had about fifteen acres cleared, and a one room log house that was heated by an air tight heater. There was only one bed in the house and all the cooking was done on a wood stove.

Much work had to be done to improve the farm, so together they all worked hard to clear the land by hand. The area had seen settlers come in before them, so they had neighbors who would help them in many ways.

At that time, the dirt roads were very poor, but they were well travelled by horse and wagon, or a sleigh in the winter time. The mail would be picked up in Evansburg by getting a ride from a neighbor who was going into town.

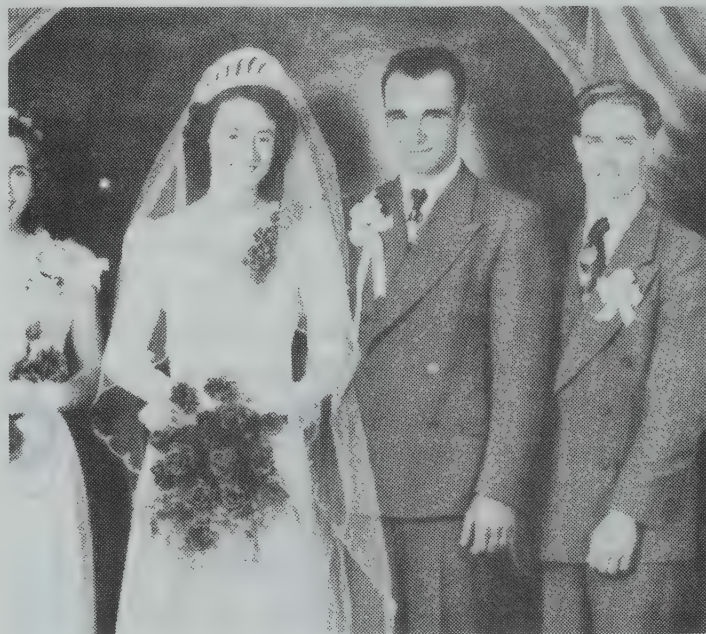
Once settled in their new home, Mike and Pete attended the Gowanbrae School. Their teachers were Miss Couves and Mrs. Frank Schroder. The school was located four miles away from the farm, and like all the rest of the students, Mike and Pete had to walk to school.

John and Julia Semenyna lived on the farm for twenty-three years. When they retired, they built a house in Evansburg, in which they are still living. John Semenyna is presently ninety years old, and his wife Julia is eighty-six. She spends most of her time gardening, and still produces a beautiful garden.

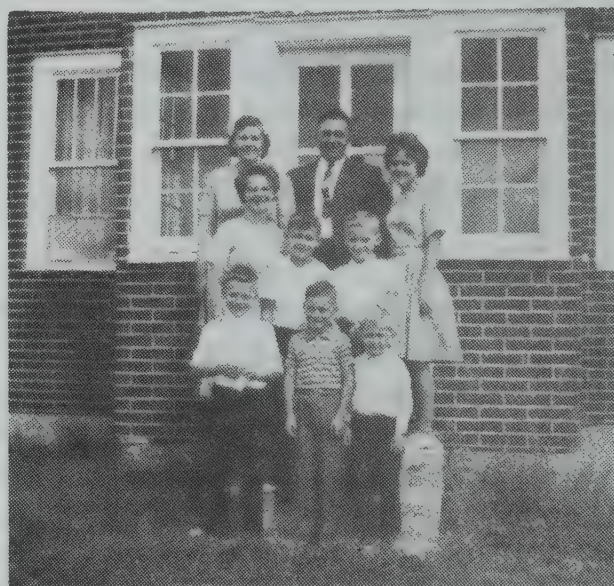
In July of 1948 Pete Semenyna married Mary Pastushuk of Tomahawk. Pete and his wife Mary have seven children, two daughters, and five sons. They have four grandchildren. The oldest daughter,



John and Julia Semenyna. John 88 years and Julia 84 years.



Mr. and Mrs. Mike Semenyna on their wedding day.



Pete and Mary Semenyna and Family

Betty, married Peter Visser of Nobleford, Alberta. He is employed as a truck driver. Their second daughter, Vicki, married Henry Mix of Stettler, Alberta. They have three children and are now living in Innisfail. Henry works for Innisfail Transfer.

The oldest son, Richard, married Lloy Burke of Entwistle. They are living in Sexsmith, Alberta. Richard is the treasurer for the Peace River Bible Institute. Lloy is a registered nurse at the Grande Prairie Hospital.

Their second son, Ernie, married Judy Lutz of Innisfail. They are presently living in the Magnolia area. Ernie is employed at the Keephill's Power Plant, and Judy works at the Evansburg Fish and Wildlife office.

Their third son, Bill, is single and is teaching at the Evansburg Junior High School.

Their fourth son, Dennis, married Lois Markham of Innisfail. They now live in Edmonton, where Dennis is a plumber. They have one child.

The youngest, Gary is at home. His plans are to go to Ireland for a two year short term missionary service, and then go into the ministry as a pastor.

Mike Semenyna married Dorothy Tymchuk of Highvale, Alberta in 1950. They moved to a farm which was called the Blasius place. It was one and a half miles away from the farm where he grew up.

Mike and Dorothy lost four of their children in a fire in 1958. One child survived the fire. Seven more were born after this accident.

Their oldest, Julia, married George Richardson. They are living in Edmonton. The oldest son,

Harry, works for Trans-Alta Utilities. He is married to Jo-Anne MacIntosh of Nova Scotia. The third oldest, Sylvia, married Leonard Pischke of Tomahawk and at present they live there. The fourth oldest, Vera, married Paul Gallagher. They are living in Rocky Mountain House. The fifth oldest, John, just recently graduated from High School in Evansburg. The three youngest Paul, Daniel, and Suzan are still attending High School.



Mr. and Mrs. Mike Semenyna and Family

Peter and Anna Markovetz

by Mrs. Mary Tuttle

Peter Markovetz, his wife Anna, their children, Dora, me, Mary and Mike and father Fred, came to Canada from Poland in 1930. They settled in the district of Naples where Olga and Donna were born. In 1933 Dad took a homestead in the district of Gowanbrae.

In 1934, the snow melted early and it was quite warm in March. Dad decided it was time to move to our new home. We loaded our belongings on a wagon and rack and started off. Mother and the small children rode on the wagon, Dora and I helped our grandfather chase the cattle.

We travelled until dark, but, as we had no food for ourselves or feed for our animals, we had to ask for help along the way. Dora and Dad went to a farmer's place and were told we could sleep in a granary. We decided to move on until we saw another light. There a negro family lived and they took us in, gave us a hot meal and feed for our

animals. The man even sent his son out with his team to bring our load in. We stayed at different places and then we ran into a snow storm. We stayed at a farmer's place east of Sangudo. It was there that we listened to the radio for the first time. We stayed for two days until it quit snowing. About two days later we came to our new home. It was a small log shack, no windows and a dirt floor on half of it. We had to get wood and set up an air-tight heater to get warm. Dad had to go and get some feed for the animals and borrow a window for the shack. He took this homestead because it was close to school and the land wasn't heavy bush.

Miss Anne L. Stephens was our teacher. She taught nine grades in a one room school.

We all worked very hard. Dad and Grandpa cut logs and hewed them with a broad axe. They built a house and barn and cleared and broke land. They also cut wild hay with a scythe. Dora and I raked it with wooden rakes that Grandpa made and piled it in coils. It was then carried with poles and made into a stack.

We planted a garden on Tom Tuttle's land and picked wild berries for extra food. We milked cows so we had milk and cream. We also shipped a few cans of cream which was worth only one dollar and fifty cents a can. In the winter Dad and Grandpa cut fence posts and sold them.



Fred Markovetz, Peter Markovetz, Mike Markovetz, Olga Markovetz, Donna Markovetz, Edna Markovetz in 1938.

In 1935 Mr. Charytoniuk moved next to our place. It was a hardship for him too, as he had a big family. That year Miss Stephens was married and Miss Phyllis Couves came to teach.

Miss Couves was very good in organizing plays. We put on the plays to raise money for the concert and for the basketball club that we had.

There were also dances at the school with music provided by local people. The ladies brought lunch and everyone had a good time.

When we harvested our first crop it was cut with a scythe and made into bundles by hand. Dad went east harvesting so Dora and I would help Grandpa haul the bundles and stack them. Later in the fall Henry and Frank Schroder moved in with the threshing machine to thresh them.

In 1937 Edna was born and Dora quit school. Then Grandpa got trampled by a horse. Dr. Chisholm came and bandaged him as he figured he had cracked ribs. Grandpa tore the tape off as soon as the doctor left. He was eighty-two years old and said he had never been to a doctor before and didn't need one then. He got better.

In June of 1939, the school children went to the city in McCormick's truck to see the King and Queen. It was quite an experience as it was the first time some of the children had been to the city. This was the year I finished grade school.

In 1940 Dora married George Tuttle and I married Jack Tuttle. We have lived around this area ever since.

In 1942 the school was moved a mile east across the muskeg, and some people moved out of the district. McMurchys moved to Magnolia, Charytoniuks moved to B.C., Schrodgers moved to Holly Springs, and Pasechnicks moved to Park Court.

Dad got some land in Park Court and moved in 1944. He had to start all over again. The family lived in a granary till they built a house. This time the logs were sawed at the saw mill.



House Pete Markovetz built and log shack they moved into in background.

In 1946 Grandpa died at the age of ninety one and a half years. Dad bought his first tractor in 1947 and Mike did most of the farming as Dad never learned to drive any motorized vehicle.

Donna was married in 1947 to Ed Tuttle. They lived in B.C. for a couple of years. Marion was born there. Then they came back and bought a farm in Park Court where Sheryl was born. In the spring of 1953 Donna was killed in an accident. The paternal grandparents raised the children.

Olga married in 1950 and lived in Ontario where Laurie and Janice were born. They came back to Alberta where Francis was born. Olga lives in Edmonton now.

Edna was married in 1959 and was widowed in 1974. She has two children, Todd and Tricia.

Dad built a house in Evansburg in 1955 and eventually retired.

Mike built a modern house in 1962, was married and has four children, Violet, Fred, Kathy and Steven. He lives on the original farm in Park Court.

Dora lives in Evansburg and has two daughters, Lorna and Bella.

I had five children, Donald, Marjorie, Harvey, Allan and Russel.

Dad is now in a nursing home in Edmonton and will be ninety years old in 1982. Mother is in a nursing home also.

Andrew and Sophie Beniuk (Sr.)

by Sonia Beniuk

Andrew arrived in Canada from Nestanyshi, Ukraine, in 1928 at the age of twenty three years. He left behind his four sisters, Julie, Mary, Alice, Saraphina, and his mother, Kathy, to look after their thirty acre farm. Mary had inherited this farm when their father John Beniuk passed away, when Andrew was eight years old. Therefore, in 1928, Andrew decided to come to Canada so he could have his own land.

On May 3, 1928, Andrew left on the Express Francais, arriving in Quebec on May 26, 1928. From Quebec he took the train to Edmonton.

Andrew's first paying job was clearing brush for a Barrhead area farmer. Two months later he was hired by the C.N.R. for three months as a railroad labourer and hauled coal dirt from the bush to the C.N.R. tracks. One year from the time he arrived in Canada, he moved to Evansburg and was employed by the local coal mine at an hourly wage of forty cents. Andrew received room and board at the Tom Mazeppa farm.

Sophie arrived in Halifax on January 12, 1930 with her twin sister Anne (Mrs. Paul Ohl of Evansburg) and her mother Elizabeth Krushelnicki from Kordybanyuka, Ukraine. Left behind were one sister Bernice and one brother Mike who were both married. Elizabeth sold her farm and took Sophie and Anne along with her to Canada to meet their older sister Mary who had been in Edmonton for the past two years. Sophie and her family traveled on the S. S. Estoneay and took a train from Halifax to Edmonton. The most scary moment during her trip to Edmonton was the time the train stopped in Saskatoon and Sophie gazed out the open window allowing one end of her long scarf to fall outside. A farmer grabbed the end and started to pull on it wanting Sophie to come with him to be his young bride. With some help and luck, when the train pulled out of Saskatoon, Sophie was still on it.

After arriving in Edmonton and settling down at her sister's place, Sophie went out and got her first and only job as a housemaid.

Andrew and Sophie met in Edmonton and were married on June 14, 1931. Two weeks later they moved to Evansburg staying at the Mazeppas while their first house was being built in the Village of Evansburg.

In 1935 they bought a homestead four and a half miles north of Evansburg. There they raised their two sons, John and Alex. John passed away in 1979. Alex took over his father's farm when Andrew retired in 1973. Alex married Olga Kremenski and they have five children; Michael, Sonia, Andrew, Edward and James.

Andrew clearly remembers buying his first milk cow in 1935. That winter he worked two to three days of the week in the Evansburg coal mine. The spring of 1936 brought the complete closure of the mine. In search of work, Andrew traveled on a freight train to Drumheller. In Stettler he and some other men were chased off the train by the police. They waited another whole day and caught the next freight train out. To their dismay when they arrived in Drumheller, there was no work available in the mine for them. The day after he arrived back home, he received a job at the Pembina logging camp which paid twenty dollars a month.

Sophie vividly remembers those four and a half mile walks every day to take Andrew's lunch to him on the homestead while he cleared the land. The Park Court road, going from Evansburg up the Lobstick River hill and past Andrew and Sophie's homestead, was always graded but never graveled. In 1936 Andrew cleared two and a half acres and seven acres in 1939. In 1940 they bought their first team of horses, wagon and walking plow, and finally moved their house from Evansburg to the homestead. In the summer Andrew cleared more land and in the winter he worked in logging camps to make enough money to get them through to his next job.

In 1941 Andrew and his good neighbors, John Rusin and Joe Nagy, built his barn which is still standing on the Beniuk farm. Andrew bought his first seeding drill, a two bottom horse plow and



Mr. and Mrs. Beniuk with load of hay.



Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Beniuk with John and Alex in 1930.

Cockshutt binder. During the winter of 1944, Andrew and Sophie cut logs and hauled them four miles to the logging camp to be cut into lumber for a new and larger house they wanted. They planed the lumber in 1946 and built a beautiful three bedroom home.

Andrew bought his first Cockshutt 30 tractor for nineteen hundred and fifty dollars, a two bottom plow for two hundred and nine dollars, a set of disks for two hundred and fifty dollars and a tractor seed drill in 1950. In 1951 Andrew bought a half section of land for his son Alex a half mile from the original homestead. 1952 was the year they bought their first vehicle, a brand new G.M.C. three quarter ton truck for twenty-one hundred dollars. They bought a larger tractor - the Cockshutt 40 and a three bottom plow for thirty six hundred and forty two dollars and eighty cents and five hundred and thirty dollars respectively in 1956.

Every Saturday the family went to town to pick up their mail and groceries. Their closest neighbors were Joe Nagy, Frank Schroder, John Rusin, Ed Woroshchuk and Mike Marushka.

Every month Andrew and Sophie travelled many miles to dances at Brightwood and Evansburg with the musicians. Andrew would help collect money at the door. The closest church was four miles further north from their farm. A big church picnic was held once every year which everyone tried to attend. Regular church services were held only once a month.

John and Alex walked to Gowanbrae School which was one mile away from home. Their teacher was Mrs. Anne Schroder.

One of the most frightening moments occurred when they were digging their first water well. Andrew had a very close call. Mr. Walter Sereda and Sophie were on top cranking the barrel of mud up to ground level while Andrew was in the well filling the barrel up with mud. The barrel somehow came loose from the rope and dropped twenty three feet just missing Andrew on the way down. One and a half feet later they hit water.

Andrew and Sophie moved back to Evansburg to build a new house on February 1, 1973, where they are presently enjoying their retirement.

The Prizeman History

by Mary Funnell

Mr. E. A. Prizeman arrived in the Styal district in the late fall of 1929. He had formerly taken a homestead in the Chip Lake area, but later left that location and settled on another homestead two and a half miles north of Styal. Before this, Mr. Prizeman had owned and operated a garage in Simpson, Saskatchewan. Here he met and married his wife. Her parents were pioneers on the prairies. The Prizeman family had, however, spent a year in the Pas, Manitoba just previous to coming to Alberta. There Mr. Prizeman had worked in the round-house. When the stock market crashed, the Prizeman family decided to homestead in Alberta.

Mrs. Prizeman and their daughters, Mary age six, and Doreen age four, arrived early in January after visiting with Mrs. Prizeman's relatives in Saskatchewan. They came to the two-roomed log cabin which Mr. Prizeman had built on the homestead close to the road north of Styal. It was quite a change for the wife and children as the area was densely wooded with smallish tamarack and poplar trees as opposed to the bald prairie. The nearest neighbours were Mr. and Mrs. James Gladwin, a half mile to the south, and to the north, one and a half miles away, lived Mr. Morgan and his two grown sons, Willis and Ralph. Across the road from the Morgans lived Mr. John Thornhill. No other young children were living in the immediate area. Mail and supplies were available at the store in Styal which was two and a half miles from the Prizeman cabin.

In the summer of that year (1929 I believe) Mr. Prizeman moved his family to Edmonton for a short period of time where Mary started school at the Strathcona School in south Edmonton. Mary and Doreen later attended Holly Springs School for about two years. Then Mr. Prizeman blazed a trail through the woods to Gowanbrae School. This trail cut off almost half the distance. As both schools were about four miles from the Prizeman cabin, the children began to attend Gowanbrae School, walking in the summer and both children riding an old horse, "Dick" by name, in the winter.

Mr. Prizeman went away to work at seasonal jobs while Mrs. Prizeman and the girls "held the homestead"! Life was hard work with everyone having their chores, school work, wood cutting, etc. The dances, school picnics, ball games and various social events all helped to bring the people together. These provide some wonderful memories of Holly Springs dances with Mr. Feldberg playing the violin, and young children being rolled up in coats and laid under the benches. These benches lined the entire walls of the school for people to sit on during the dance.

Also the annual Christmas concert was a big event. A live performance was presented to the



Prizeman house north of Styal.



Doreen and Mary Prizeman

proud parents and neighbours by the children of the school. The schools were cold in winter but that big barrel stove sat in the middle or off to one end and puffed heat about the school.

The teachers at Holly Springs the years that the Prizeman children attended were Miss Webb, who boarded with the Couves family and Miss Gladys Smith, who later became Mrs. Charlie Couves. At the Gowanbrae School the teachers were Miss Nancy Stephens and Miss Phyllis Couves. Fond memories remain of all school days and teachers. All grades one to eight were combined in the one room as well as some students studying grade IX by correspondence.

The Prizemans stayed on the homestead until 1940 when they moved to Evansburg and rented a small house from Mr. Bob Tuke. The children could then attend the Evansburg High School.

The Second World War made employment easier to obtain and Mr. Prizeman obtained work in Edmonton where he later moved his family. Mary graduated from the Victoria High School in Edmonton in 1941. Mr. Prizeman was off again in the spring of 1942. This time the family went to Vancouver where Doreen graduated from King Edward School, Vancouver.

Mr. and Mrs. Prizeman lived in B.C., (Vancouver and area) for many years. Later they spent several years at Kawkawa Lake, near Hope, B.C. Finally they moved back to Surrey, B.C. where they lived again for several years.

Mrs. Prizeman passed away in her home in Surrey on February 26th, 1967. Mr. Prizeman later sold the property and lived out his life in Vancouver. He passed away on January 9th, 1974. Both daughters are married. Mrs. M.R. Carswell (Doreen) lives in Trail, B.C. and Mrs. R.S. Funnell (Mary) in Vancouver, B.C.

The Lambs

Fred and Wallace Lamb, Scottish immigrants, took up homesteads in the Gowanbrae district in 1929 or 1930. They were both very musical, playing violin and accordion at the dances held in the Gowanbrae School.

They grew a huge raspberry patch. They became unable to eat them and would let their neighbors pick.

Besides the ordinary farming, they also raised bees and sold honey.

Unfortunately they both died of cancer at an early age.

Newt Gammond

Newt Gammond was a well known member of the Gowanbrae Community during the thirties and forties. He was "hired man" at Mickey McCormicks, working on the farm in summer and fall,



Newt Gammond

and in the lumber camp in the winter. He would often haul lumber to Evansburg and supplies back to the camp.

In the late thirties Newt was married to Cecile Tito. This did not work out and they were later divorced.

During his last days Newt Gammond lived in a little trailer in Entwistle.

Joe Jackson

Joe Jackson came from Saskatchewan in 1923 with the Tuttle family. He made his home with them for many years. "Big Joe", as he was called, was well known in the Gowanbrae and Holly Springs Districts.

He helped in the building of both schools. He also worked in Mickey McCormick's sawmill and on building roads.



Mac Tuttle, Art Brown, Joe Jackson in 1929.

He moved to Evansburg when he was old enough to receive his pension and lived out the rest of his life in a little house that stands near the Marshall house. When he received his pension he revealed that his name was really Antoine Guiggey, but he was still Joe Jackson to all who knew him.

The Kremeniuk Family

by Gloria Lawton

Stefan Kremeniuk was born in Chotiwla, Ukraine in 1883. In 1911, he married Agafia Sawchuk who was born in Nova Wyzwa, Ukraine, in 1893.

Stefan came to Canada and worked in Sudbury, Ontario in 1911, returning to the Ukraine in 1912. By 1930, the couple had four children, Steve, Pete, Walter and Nettie, for whom they could see little future in the Ukraine. Therefore they decided to immigrate to Canada where Stefan had already seen the vastness of the country and the opportunities available.

On arriving in Canada, they decided to travel west where farm land was more readily available. In Alberta they first settled in the Onoway area. In the spring of 1931 they moved to their homestead two miles south of Highway 43 on the Darwell road.

Living in this country provided many difficulties for these two non-English speaking immigrants. The depression had taken hold and it proved to be a hand-to-mouth existence. Stefan was forced to leave his family and walk or catch freight trains to find work. He spent many long hours working for only one dollar per day helping with the harvests in Stony Plain, Edmonton and Camrose areas. One winter Stefan worked in a coal mine, but all for nothing when it went broke and his sixty-four dollars in wages were never realized.

In the meantime, Agafia and her children led a very difficult life at home, not knowing where or how Stefan was or when he would return. Agafia told of working with her children in the Manly District digging potatoes in return for a few sacks of potatoes. Some of these she traded for flour which helped them through a very bleak winter.

Stefan, being very mechanically inclined, made a grinder out of two large flat stones, with which he ground wheat into flour for themselves and for the neighbors. Agafia also told of making coffee out of barley.

On June 16, 1951, their son, Walter, married Mary Homiak of Rich Valley. In 1952 Mary and Walter had a daughter, Gloria. They continued to live on the farm at Glenevis until 1955 when Walter purchased a school bus from Ross Campbell of Evansburg. The same year they sold the homestead in Glenevis and moved to the Evansburg area. There Stefan, Agafia, Walter and family lived with brother Pete and family until they built their house on the N.W.-36-53-8-5. On August 13, 1956, Mary and Walter had a son, Brian. When they brought Brian home from the hospital, there had been a heavy rainfall and the roads were in very poor condition. They had driven about a quarter of a mile off the main road when the car became plugged with that well known "Evansburg gumbo". The remainder of the trip was made on neighbor John Kierzkowski's tractor and stoneboat.

Due to those road conditions, Walter had often left his bus at the main road and walked home. He returned the two miles in the morning to complete his bus route through South Park Court. Through the years, the family worked hard clearing the land and developed a successful farm.

In 1968 Stefan and Agafia retired and moved to the Village of Evansburg. They resided there in their own home, until their passing. Stefan passed away in November, 1972 and Agafia in February, 1977.

Mary and Walter still live on the farm. Walter still drives the school bus. Their daughter, Gloria attended the University of Alberta from 1970-73 in the Faculty of Education. On June 16, 1973, Gloria married George Lawton of Niton Junction where they farm. They have three children, Derek, Mark and Christine.

Son Brian attended the University of Alberta from 1974 to 1978. He graduated with a Bachelor



Stefan and Agafia Kremeniuk



Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kremeniuk with Brian and Gloria.

of Agriculture degree. Brian married Paulette Leplante of Fort Kent on July 24, 1982. They live in Bonnyville where Brian is employed by Energy and Natural Resources. He is a Land Agrologist and Paulette is a secretary for the Bonnyville R.C.M.P.

Peter and Olga Kremeniuk

Peter and Olga Kremeniuk farmed in the Evansburg area for twenty-nine years before moving in 1975 to the Chilliwack area in B.C. where they are presently residing.

Peter Kremeniuk came to Canada from Poland in 1930 at the age of seven with his parents, two brothers and one sister. The family originally settled

in the Onoway area but later moved to a homestead close to Glenevis where Peter received his schooling and later worked out. He joined the army in 1942 and stayed in Europe until the end of the war. After the war, Peter moved to the Evansburg area where he purchased the farm owned by the McCormick family. In November of 1946, he married Olga Bura, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bura who are presently residing in Evansburg.

Olga Bura also came from Poland with her parents who settled in the Styal area, west of Evansburg, in 1938. Olga received her education in the local schools of Gowanbrae and Holly Springs, before moving to Edmonton to work.

Peter and Olga have two sons, Andy and Terry who grew up and received their primary education at Evansburg Schools. They both attended the University of Alberta after leaving Evansburg and received degrees in Agriculture in 1971.

In 1971 Andy married Roseanna Udchitz and lived in Edmonton while working as a representative for a seed company. In 1973 Andy moved back to the family farm which he took over in 1975. Andy and Roseanna are presently farming in the area and have three children, Danielle, Matthew and Leah.

Terry Kremenik worked for Lakeside Feeders out of Brooks after graduating. In 1972 he married Sharon Udchitz. Also in 1972 Terry began to work for Farm Credit Corporation. In 1977 he received a Masters Degree in Business Administration and is presently working for the Farm Credit Corporation in Ottawa where he and Sharon are residing with their family of three children, Kendra, Daran and Courtney.

Edward Bone

Edward (Shorty) Bone took a homestead in 1930 - the NE-25-54-7-W5. He had worked as a flunky in McCormick's camp. Not being too adept at carpentry, his shack was a sight to behold. He stayed only a year or two and then got a job as bartender at the Evansburg Hotel. He later went to Gainford Hotel where he worked in the bar for many years. He

retired to Drayton Valley, where he passed away a few years ago.

John and Louise Udchitz

John and Louise Udchitz and six children moved from Water Valley in 1957 to the Evansburg area. They settled seven miles north and one and a half miles west of Evansburg.

John was the only son and youngest child of Anthony and Mary Udchitz. He was born in Russia and immigrated to Canada with his parents when he was ten years old. They settled on a homestead in the Rocky Rapids area. Here they tried to farm and establish a lumber camp. John and his father then moved to Water Valley where they were engaged in the lumber business for several years.

Louise was the third oldest child of George and Mary Smolski. Her parents also emigrated from Russia. Louise was born in Canada on a homestead at Round Valley.

John and Louise were married in June of 1951 and for several years before moving to Evansburg lived in Water Valley and Calgary.

The initial reason for moving to this area was prompted by the fact Louise did not want to raise children in the city.

While they were in Evansburg, they tried various farming endeavours. They tried raising sheep, cattle and grain farming. They also had three additional children.

Most of the children were raised and educated in this area. In 1976 they sold the family farm and moved to Thorsby, Alberta to become the owners and operators of the Thorsby Hotel.

In 1974 John and his daughter, Roseanna, both received their Bachelor of Education Degrees. John taught at the Lindale School for a year.

The children and grandchildren of Johnny and Louise have settled in various parts of the country.

Roseanna married Andy Kremeniuk in 1971. After attending University, they returned to the area in 1975 to take over Andy's family farm. Roseanna teaches school in the area. They have three children; two daughters, Danielle and Leah and a son Matthew.

Sharon married Terry Kremeniuk in 1972. After living in Grande Prairie, Peace River and Vancouver they have made their home in Ottawa, Ontario. Terry is with the Farm Credit Corporation. They have three children; two daughters, Kendra and Courtney and one son, Daron.

Anthony married Lori La Chance of Lindale in 1977. "Clint" and Lori lived in Edmonton and then moved to Regina where Anthony and David are in partnership in a hotel with their father.

Cindy married Pat Gronlund in 1972. Cindy and Pat have a tree farm at Nojack, Alberta. They have three children: two daughters, Nicole and Amanda, and one son Trevor.

Evelon married Raymond Woloszyn in 1976. At the present time Eve and Ray have a home in St. Albert. They have one daughter, Misty.

Susan and Joe Gronlund are also living at Nojack where they are presently building a home on an acreage. They have one daughter, Jamie Louise.

David is making his home in Regina. He is involved in owning and operating the New Venture Hotel with Anthony and John. David and Iris have one son, John Anthony David.

Carolyn Udchitz is presently working in different parts of the province as an equipment operator for a construction company.

Wanda Udchitz is still residing at home in the Thorsby area. Upon her graduation in 1983, she hopes to go into fashion and design work.

The Mac Tuttles

by Lois Tuttle

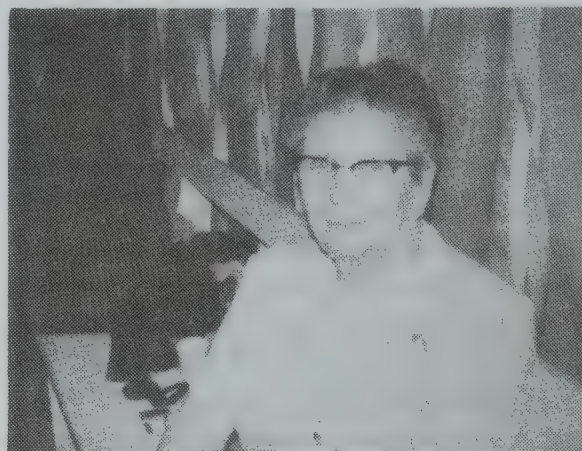
Mac Tuttle and Lois Rauser were married October, 1952.

We moved to our farm three miles north-east of Evansburg. There was no road in at that time, just a trail, which was quite impassable in wet weather.

We moved a shack into the middle of a ten-acre clearing which proved to be a good idea when the bush fires came in the next couple of years.

Our first two children, Brian and Maxine were born in 1953 and 1955. In 1956 we moved into a house in Evansburg, purchased from Bob Rauser, when he moved to B.C. We lived there five years during which time Glenna and Barry were born in 1957 and 1959.

In 1961 we moved back to the farm where we have lived since then.



Mrs. Tom Tuttle



Bob Tuttle, Ed. Tuttle, Georgina Moore, Mrs. Tom Tuttle.

Not To Be Forgotten

The following is a list of former residents for whom, for various reasons, we have been unable to obtain a family history. Some may have been missed and for this we apologize.

The Committee

Charytoniuk Family

Epaty Charytoniuk filed on N.E. 14-54-8-W5 in 1934. Here he lived with his wife and several children. The children went to the Gowanbrae School. The family moved away after the Gowanbrae School was built across the muskeg.

Aty deJong

Mr. and Mrs. deJong and their family lived on SE 6-54-7-W5 for several years. Mr. deJong worked at the creamery and Mrs. deJong cooked in the cafe and at several children's summer camps. They moved to Olds, Alberta.



Gowanbrae School 1940

(B.R.) Miss Pisesky, Nettie Pasechnick, Millie Zollikofer, Audrey McCormick, Myrtle Miller, Lydia Smolley. (Boys standing) Albert Miller, Eddy Woroschuk, Eddy Tuttle, Mike Markovetz. (Girls) Olga Markovetz, Annie Maruska, Nancy Charytoniuk, Donn Markovetz, Helen Miller. (Boys sitting) Alex Pasechnick, Mike Semenyna, Doug McMurchy, and Eddie McMurchy (*in shadow*) Andrew Charytoniuk, Jimmy Tuttle with Walter Charytoniuk and Peter Semenyna behind. (F.R.) Ronnie McCormick, John Charytoniuk and Nick Pasechnick.

The Kubeliks

The Kubelik family lived on SW 2-54-8-W5 in the thirties.

Pasechnick Family

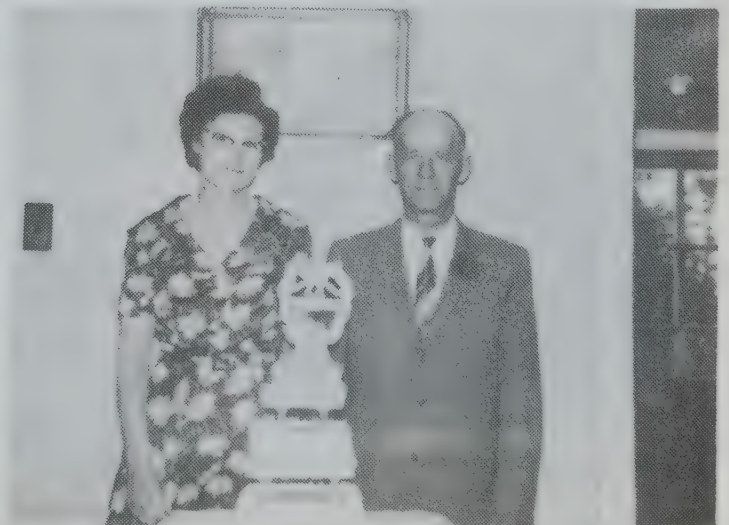
Wasalena Pasechnick filed on S.E. 23-54-8-W5 on May 28, 1937. The children went to the Gowanbrae School. The family moved to Park Court when the new Gowanbrae School was built.

The Senetzas

The Senetzas moved on SW 2-54-8-W5 after the Kubeliks left. Their two children Jim and Nora went to Gowanbrae School.

Bill Francis Splettstazer

Bill Francis homesteaded NW 12-54-8-W5. It is now owned by Walter Kremeniuik.



Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schroder 25th Wedding Anniversary.

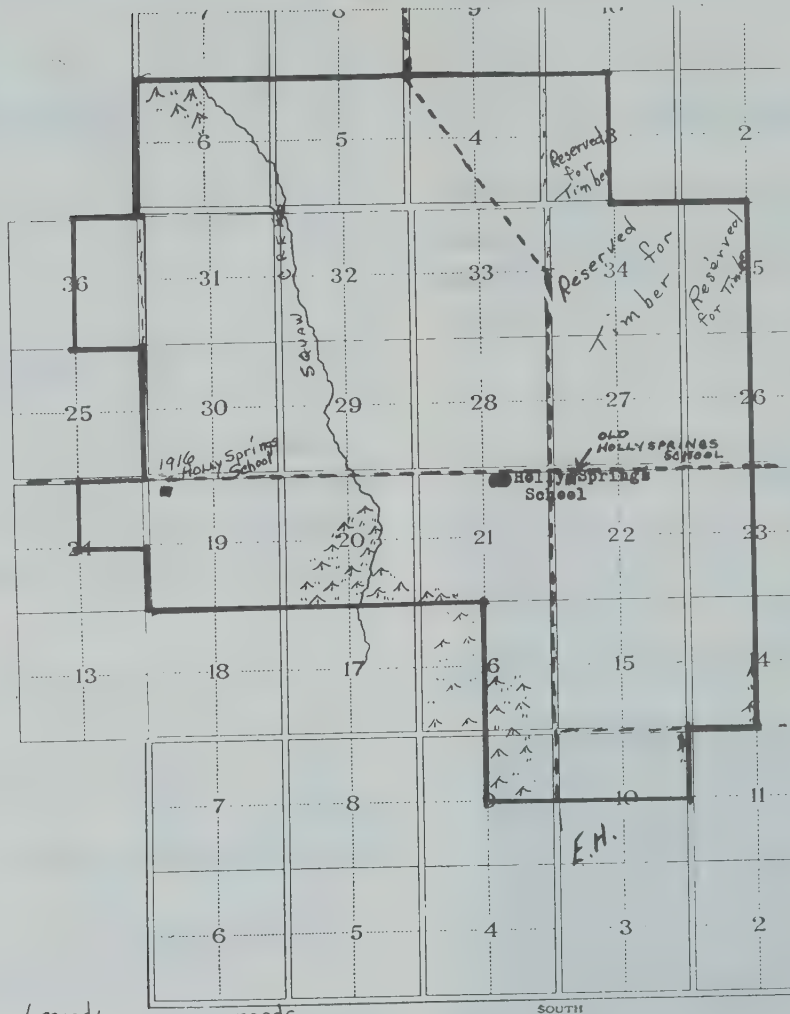
HOLLY SPRINGS

HOLLY SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Range 9

Range 8

West of 5th Meridian



Legend:
 - - - - - roads
 ^ ^ ^ muskeg



Holly Springs School - 1940.



Playing ball - 1935.

Holly Springs District

by G. Schroder

The Holly Springs District was rather a late bloomer compared to many other places, perhaps because of the location. The Lobstick River and the many muskegs in the area made it difficult to reach.

There was a settlement of Blacks to the west who filed on homesteads around 1910: Sanders Jackson, John Jackson, Jack W. Hewson, Robert J. Rogers, Peter Johnson, James Jimerson, Edward Hawkins - 1911, Lucius W. Newson, Jack W. Newson and Boone.

A school was built in 1916 and called Holly Springs, probably after a home town back in the United States. The school was located on the quarter where John Ohnesty now lives. Later some of these families moved closer to Junkins. Others moved away. The school was abandoned and later it burned down. Their homesteads were settled on by other settlers - by Saxers from Switzerland in 1924, and some Ukrainian families in the late twenties: Gongowicz, Ohnesty, Konkolus, Malanchuk, and Wadiak. These stories will be in the Wildwood book.

In the eastern part of the district, the first settlers were T. B. Morgan and Hugh Dawley, from Wyoming in 1914. Then Arthur Wolff of Park Court married one of the Morgan daughters, Lucy Morgan, in 1915 and took a homestead. For many years they were the only settlers until the early twenties when the Couves and Tuttle families came, also M. Sylvester and the McMurchy and Welsh families. At that time there were no roads, only trails - "one mud hole from there to Styal, only deeper in some places than others". Stumps in the middle of the road and corduroy over the worst spots, all added to the hazards of travelling. The river had to be forded at Street's place until a bridge was built and some road work was done.

Fires were another hazard. Over-enthusiastic homesteaders would toss a match into the long grass - "to clear up the country". These fires would

sometimes travel for miles burning up trees and top-soil.

The nearest store and post office were at Styal, five miles south on a very crooked trail from Wolffs. Rufus Hadley kept the store and post office and farmed as well. The Jasper Highway went through Styal, and there was a railway station on the C.N.R.

A bridge was built across the Lobstick in 1924 or 1925.

A school was built in 1926 by these early settlers (Wolff, Tuttle and Couves families and Joe Jackson) as there were now several children. It was built of logs and chinked with moss. It was given the name of Holly Springs as the first school had been long abandoned.

To the north was a huge tract of large trees which was called the "timber limit". Here several mills operated over the years providing many needed jobs.

Life was hard in those days - clearing land with axe and grub-hoe was a very slow job. These were the depression years and money was scarce. To earn extra dollars many homesteaders went out harvesting in the fall.

Hardships were many. Poor roads, and low prices for crops and cattle didn't help. There were insect pests - little black-flies (no-see-ums), horse flies and mosquitoes. No one would dream of going out without long sleeves, long stockings and even cheesecloth over the face and neck.

Then, too, there was "swamp fever" which attacked horses brought up from the prairies. Many a homesteader lost his means of transportation and power. No one seems to know what caused it - a virus maybe - but unaclimatized horses became weak and listless and usually died. Many a bottle of "Dr. Bells" and sweet nitre were used to try to cure the disease.

As time went on, more and more settlers came and went. Many nationalities were represented - German, English, Scottish, Irish, Danish, American, French, Ukrainian and people from Ontario.

Social life centred around the school. Dances, meetings, concerts and picnics were held there. Church was held in the summer when a student minister came out. Later ministers of various churches held services in the school and homes.

Gardens thrived and there were plenty of wild berries, wild game, and fish in the nearby lakes and in creeks in the spring.

Roads slowly began to improve, with settlers working off their taxes using horses, slips and scrapers. In later years larger machinery was used - caterpillar tractors and graders. By 1951 they were spreading gravel.

In 1941 a new Holly Springs school was built one half mile west (more central). It ran until 1956 when it was closed and the children were bussed to Evansburg.

In the fifties, the 4-H clubs and Women's Institute used the school as headquarters. When the Women's Institute disbanded, a Community League was formed. Electricity and gas were installed and the old school building became the community centre.

The timber limit, having supplied lumber for so many years, was thrown open for settlement. Now there are farms where the sawmills used to be.

Bulldozers and large machinery opened up many acres, so that now anyone returning to the area after fifty years or so would find many changes. Good roads, now gravelled, some soon to be paved, link the district to the rest of the country. Farms are open, with modern homes serviced with electricity, gas, telephones, and water systems - a far cry from the tiny homesteads of fifty years ago.



Annabell Taylor, Victor Taylor, Mrs. Lorenzo Eccles, Mrs. Feldberg and Bruno.



First hay Rack - Couves.



Sunday School at Holly Springs - 1926. Wolff, Couves, Harris, and Tuttle Families.

THE CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

RURAL PRELIMINARY LIST OF ELECTORS

Electoral District of Jasper-Edson

Rural Polling Division No. 144, North Styal

Comprising all of Township 54, Range 8, west of the 5th Meridian. Polling Station at Holly Springs School.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Abel, Mrs. Eileen, Widow, Styal 2 Amsbrough, Orval, Farmer, Wildwood 3 Amsbrough, Mrs. O., Wildwood 4 Bura, Peter, Farmer, Styal 5 Bura, Mrs. P., Styal 6 Bura, Nick, Farmer, Styal 7 Brenenstulh, Wm., Farmer, Styal 8 Brenenstulh, Mrs. F., Teacher, Styal 9 Couves, Frank, Farmer, Styal 10 Couves, Mrs. Jean, Styal 11 Chwedoruk, Walter, Farmer, Styal 12 Chewdoruk, Mrs. Nina, Styal 13 Dair, James, Farmer, Styal 14 Feldberg, August, Farmer, Styal 15 Feldberg, Mrs. W. H., Styal 16 Feldberg, Lawrence, Farmer, Styal 17 Feldberg, Mrs. Jessie, Styal 18 Feldberg, Melvin, Farmer, Styal 19 Feldberg, Mrs. Lillie, Styal 20 Feldberg, Norbert, Farmer, Styal 21 Feldberg, Bernard, Farmer, Styal 22 Gibbs, John, Farmer, Styal 23 Gonkiewicz, Mike, Farmer, Wildwood 24 Gonkiewicz, Mrs. M., Wildwood 25 Gonkiewicz, Edward, Farmer, Wildwood 26 Hutchinson, H. A., Farmer, Evansburg 27 Hutchinson, Mrs. Evelyn, Evansburg 28 Hauser, Anton, Farmer, Wildwood 29 Jackson, Joe, Carpenter, Evansburg 30 Kuharchuk, P., Farmer, Styal 31 Kuharchuk, Harry, Teacher, Styal 32 Kuharchuk, John, Millman, Styal 33 Kremeniuk, Steve, Farmer, Evansburg 34 Kremeniuk, Peter, Farmer, Evansburg 35 Kremeniuk, Mrs. Olga, Evansburg 36 Konkolus, Joe, Farmer, Wildwood 37 Konkolus, Mrs. J., Wildwood 38 Samb, Fred, Farmer, Evansburg 39 Marshall, Robert, Farmer, Evansburg | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 40 Marshall, Mrs. Helen, Evansburg 41 Mark, Wm., Farmer, Styal 42 Mark, Mrs. Wm., Styal 43 Mark, Sydney, Farmer, Styal 44 Morgan, W. B., Labourer, Styal 45 Malanchuk, Wm., Farmer, Wildwood 46 Malanchuk, Mrs. Wm., Wildwood 47 Malanchuk, Joe, Farmer, Wildwood 48 Malanchuk, Peter, Farmer, Wildwood 49 Malanchuk, Mrs. P., Wildwood 50 Ohnesty, John, Farmer, Wildwood 51 Schroder, Henry, Farmer, Styal 52 Schroder, Mrs. Gladys, Styal 53 Stephens, E. M., Invalid, Styal 54 Stephens, Mrs. E. M., Styal 55 Stephens, Edward, Farmer, Styal 56 Silvachuk, Nick, Farmer, Styal 57 Silvachuk, Mrs. N., Styal 58 Saxer, Wm., Farmer, Wildwood 59 Saxer, Mrs. Wm., Wildwood 60 Saxer, Willie, Farmer, Wildwood 61 Senetza, Nick, Farmer, Evansburg 62 Senetza, Mrs. Mary, Evansburg 63 Senetza, James, Farmer, Evansburg 64 Senetza, Miss Nora, Clerk, Evansburg 65 Semeniuk, Kaip, Farmer, Styal 66 Tuttle, T. J., Farmer, Evansburg 67 Tuttle, Mrs. Mae, Evansburg 68 Tuttle, W. J., Farmer, Evansburg 69 Tuttle, Mrs. Mary, Evansburg 70 Tuttle, George, Farmer, Styal 71 Tuttle, Mrs. Dora, Styal 72 Tuttle, James, Farmer, Evansburg 73 Tucker, Blake, Farmer, Wildwood 74 Tucker, Mrs. Annie, Wildwood 75 Wadiak, Frank, Farmer, Wildwood 76 Wadiak, Mrs. F., Wildwood 77 Wadiak, Walter, Farmer, Wildwood |
|--|---|

I hereby certify that the foregoing is the printed preliminary list of electors for the rural polling division No. 144, of the electoral district of Jasper-Edson as prepared by the appropriate enumerator for use at the pending election.

Dated at Lake Isle, Alta., this 4th day of July 1953.

DONALD McLEOD
Returning Officer.

Printed by the Signal Publishing Co., whose address is Edson, Alberta.

The 4 H Clubs in Holly Springs

by G. Schroder

*I pledge - My Head to clearer thinking
My Heart to greater loyalty
My Hands to larger service and
My Health to better living.
For my club, my community and my country.*

This pledge is recited by members at their meetings. The motto of 4-H is "Learn to do by doing."

Wishing to be a part of this worthwhile movement, a few interested parents and young people invited Mr. A. A. Campbell, Evansburg District Agriculturist, to the Holly Springs School in January, 1949. Mr. Campbell explained the aims and objectives of 4H.

A Dairy Calf Club was formed. Bert Hutchinson became the leader. Three day old calves could be obtained from Stony Plain and Spruce Grove dairy farmers for twenty-five dollars (later raised to forty dollars that year.) The first president was Mac Tuttle and the first secretary-treasurer was Jean Bura (Ditner). Other members were Bob Schroder, Bill Semeniuk, Otto and Walter Wiest, Willie Brenenstuhl, Jim Schroder and Dave Schroder.

The first two calves were shipped by C.N.R. to Bob Schroder and Jean Bura that summer. These were later taken to Wildwood to show at the Wildwood Fair. This was for display purposes only as there were no classes for them at that time. In later years classes were added to the Wildwood Fair prize list.

The first Achievement Day was held in June, 1954, in Evansburg where the Lutheran Summer Camp is now held.

As the Donahoo Grain Club, with Joe Horvath as leader, was in need of members, some of the Dairy Calf Club members joined the Grain Club and some of the Grain Club members joined the



Holly Springs Dairy Calf Club, David Schroder and his 4-H Calf.



4-H Float - 1955

Billy Semeniuk, Marjorie Tuttle, Bob Schroder, Alex Semeniuk, Jim Schroder, Otto Weist.

Dairy Calf Club. Mr. William Brenenstuhl became the leader of this club. The two clubs worked together for many years, holding joint meetings and going on tours together.

In 1952 the Evansburg Garden Club (Annabel Taylor as leader), the Holly Springs Dairy Calf Club, and the Donahoo Grain Club put a float in the Edmonton Exhibition Parade. For many years afterwards, they entered floats in the parade and won prizes.

4H Club members went on many tours such as plot tours, calf club tours and tours to packing plants and dairies. 4H members also received many

awards such as ribbons and trips to Vermilion and Olds Schools of Agriculture, Dairymen's Convention in Edmonton, summer camps at the Exhibition, and the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto. They took part in Achievement Days, Banquets and the Wildwood Fair. In later years, trophies were presented to award winners by interested businessmen in Evansburg, Entwistle and Wildwood.

The leaders, Bert Hutchinson and Bill Brenenstuhl went to conferences. Both received Twenty-five Year Certificates in recognition of their services. When they retired, other leaders were Jim Schroder, Willie Brenenstuhl and John Ohnesty.

The Dairy Calf Club became a Beef Club in the late 1950s or early 1960s. The Grain Club became a Forage Club. The name was changed to Pembina - Lobstick. Members joined from all over the area, some of them a new generation of the same families.

Recognition should be given to leaders who gave so generously of their time and effort, to parents who helped in many ways and to the Agricultural Officials who made all things possible. Besides Mr. A. A. Campbell, these were Dick Bocking, Les Usher, Stan McArthur and Earl Lowe who all gave so much encouragement and help.

Besides learning how to do things, 4H members learned responsibility and leadership qualities. Also, here is a note of interest. In those early days, there were a couple of weddings. The president, Mac Tuttle, married Lois Rauser and the secretary, Jean Bura, married Allan Ditner.

Others from the district who were in 4H were Verna Bura, Mary Bura, Jean Semeniuk, Alex Semeniuk, George Semeniuk, Elizabeth Semeniuk, Frank Babcock, Donald Tuttle, Margie Tuttle, Billy Kuharchuk, Annie Kuharchuk, Shirley Hutchinson, Fred Hutchinson, Eddie Tucker, Harry Tucker, John Ohnesty, Andy Kremeniuk and Terry Kremeniuk.

The clubs have moved on to other districts, to other leaders and a new generation of members. We will always remember when 4H was such an important part of Holly Spring's life.



Pembina 4-H Field Crops Club plot - 1965.



Provincial Plot Winner - John Ohnesty.



4-H Float in Edmonton Exhibition parade.

Calf Club Holds Achievement Day

HOLLYSPRINGS — The Holly Springs 4-H Dairy Calf Club held its achievement day at the Wildwood Summer Fair on Aug. 24, supervised by R. C. Bocking, district agriculturist for this area, and their club leader, Bert Hutchinson. The judge was Charles Gordon of the Department of Agriculture. There were 23 animals shown, 12 calves, eight yearlings and three two-year olds.

Mr. Bocking said a few words of appreciation for the efforts of the club leader, Bert Hutchinson. Then the club members judged four yearlings in a judging contest. ~~Winners in this were~~ first, James Schroder; second, David Schroder; third, Willie Brenenstuhl.

Then followed the judging of the 12 calves by Charles Gordon which was quite a difficult job. The winner this year was an Ayrshire calf shown by Connie Benesch. The winners were: first, Connie Benesch; second, Ken Euchner; third, Mary Ann Weist; fourth, Ann Miko; fifth, David Herzog; sixth, James Schroder; seventh, Donald Tuttle; eighth, Lorry Euchner; ninth, David Schroder; tenth, Merle Leakvold; eleventh, Willie Brenenstuhl; twelfth, Carl Leakvold.

During the judging of this class the club members were judged for

showmanship. Winners were: first, James Schroder; second, Mary Ann Weist; third, Connie Benesch. The yearlings were next eight of them. In order they were: first, Donald Tuttle; second, Ken Euchner; third, David Schroder; fourth, Merle Leakvold; fifth, James Schroder; sixth, Willie Brenenstuhl; seventh, David Herzog; eighth, Mary Ann Weist.

There were three two-year olds. Winner in this class had been winner as a calf in 1954, a yearling in 1955 and this year as a two year old: first, David Schroder; second, Willie Brenenstuhl; third, James Schroder.

Finally, three club members showed their groups of three and their standing was: first, David Schroder; second, Willie Brenenstuhl; third, James Schroder.

Dairy Calf Club winners - Achievement Day - 1956.



Pembina 4-H Field Crops Day - Merle Bruner, Mike Mazeppa, Willie Brenenstuhl, John Ohnysty, Bert Hutchinson, Andy Kremeniuk, Terry Kremeniuk.

The Holly Springs Women's Institute

by G. Schroder

When the Holly Springs School was closed, the children and teacher, Mrs. Brenenstuhl, were bussed to Evansburg. The Holly Springs Women's Institute was organized to keep the community together. Elections were held in the summer of 1957. The first president was Annie Tucker and the first secretary-

treasurer was Gertie Schuster. The founding members were Freda Babcock, Florence Brenenstuhl, Wanda Feldberg, Evelyn Hutchinson, Gertie Schuster, Gladys Schroder, Maude Stephens and Annie Tucker. Later other members joined. They were Ruby Brooks, Mary Bura, Justine Hergott, Olga Kremeniuk, Thelma Nadon, Hilda Roberts and Eileen Ziegler.

Meetings were held once a month in a member's home or the Community Centre (former Holly Springs School). Birthdays were recognized by a birthday cup and saucer. Roll Call topics were varied and interesting.

The group's main interest was the community. The members of the Women's Institute were responsible for the annual Christmas concert and tree, the annual summer picnic with races, horse-shoes, booth and ball games, bridal and baby showers, grocery hampers to bachelors, farewell parties and benefit dances for fire victims. The group also sent cards and parcels to hospital patients. They gave donations of clothing and money to various organizations such as the Unitarian Services and Cancer Society.

To raise money, whist drives, bazaars, bingos and raffles were held.

Going further afield, some members attended W.I. Conferences at Carrot Creek, Hattonford and Fulham School (near Peers). One summer a W.I. Conference was held at the Holly Springs School. Officials attending were Mrs. Thorne - Provincial District Director, Mrs. Wild - District Convenor,

CLUB WOMAN'S CREED

Keep us, O God, from pettiness; let us be large in thought, in word and deed.

Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking.

May we put away pretence and meet each other face to face without self-pity and without prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous.

Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid.

Let us take time for all things; make us grow calm, serene, gentle.

Grant that we may realize that it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things of life we are one.

And may we strive to touch and to know the great human heart common to us all; and, O Lord God, let us not forget to be kind.

Club Woman's Creed - Women's Institute.



W. I. Members from Holly Springs
(L—R) Florence Brenenstuhl, Gladys Schroder, Wanda Feldberg, Freda Babcock, Ruby Brooks, Gertie Schuster. (Front Row) Evelyn Hutchinson, Justine Hergott, Maude Stephens.

and Mrs. Martha Bielish - a Provincial Director. Other visitors to meetings were Mrs. Sprenkle - Constituency Convenor, Mrs. Wigley - District Director, Marion Inglis - District Economist and Mrs. Cornelia Wood of Stony Plain.

Among the accomplishments of the W.I. was the upkeep and repair to the building and grounds. It was a very worthwhile endeavour as it kept the community going after the school was closed.

In 1966, the group disbanded in favor of a Community League which has been active ever since.

Holly Springs School

Compiled from Interviews by Edna Hadley

The story of the first Holly Springs School comes from Mrs. Sue Myers of Wildwood. The school opened in 1916 and ran for four months, January, February, March and April. It was held in a log building with rough lumber for the floor and ceiling. For desks they had benches of two different heights, the lower one they sat on and the higher one they used to write on with their slates and slate pencils. The blackboard was a square of rough lumber covered with tar paper. When this tar paper wore out with use, it was replaced from a roll of tar

paper standing in the corner. The teacher was Mr. Young who lived in a cabin nearby with his wife and child. Mr. Young chopped all the wood for his own cabin and for the air tight heater in the school. Besides this, he had a trap line. Fourteen students attended school here, five Boones, five Jacksons, three Johnsons, and one Cochrane. When the Jacksons and Johnsons moved away, the school closed.

In 1926 a log school house was built on the N.W. corner of 21-54-8-W5th. It was constructed by Tom Tuttle and Joe Jackson and opened on April 22, 1926. The first teacher, Miss Rogers, stayed for thirteen days, much to the annoyance of the chairman, Tom Tuttle. Tom had to go among the rate payers to collect enough money to pay her salary for the thirteen days. Some of the early teachers boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Harris. Often a teacher's stay in the school would be short. One came long enough to earn some money for her marriage in the near future; one man was a university student so taught during the summer months. The school term would commence September first and would often close at Christmas time, and the school board would be uncertain of the time it would reopen. Thus the teacher, having no assurance of a continued contract, would go elsewhere to teach. Teachers who taught in Holly Springs were: Miss Rogers, Mr. McFarland, Mr. Bailey, Leona Suggett, Miss Paskins, Elmer Hepburn, Edna Hutchinson, Bertha Parker, Gertie Webb, Jean Blair, Olga Drozdiak, Jean Pilkington, Gladys Smith and Florence Brenenstuhl. Mrs. Pilkington taught in Holly Springs School in 1940, the last teacher to teach in the log building. She recalls the following about the school - "Mud plastered one-half of the outside of the school wall to keep the mice out. Goats looked in the east side of the school, appearing so wise, staring at us while we worked. There were no library books. No one had a sled, so at recess time the students slid down the hill on cardboard. We had no dust pan all year; in fact it was not needed. When the floor was swept from east to west the dirt went down the cracks in the floor. The school had two stoves, an air tight heater and an oil drum on its side. When they were both lit they drew



Gertie Webb, teacher at Holly Springs in early 1930's.



Holly Springs School, 1926.



Miss Bertha Parker - teacher Holly Springs 1934-36.

against each other and the room would fill with smoke. Mr. Hollinshead was the Inspector at that time and he was followed by Dr. Rees."

The new frame school was built by Adam Maguire of the Reno District, and it opened in 1941. Florence Brenenstuhl was the first teacher in the new building, followed by Jean Couves. Then Mrs. Brenenstuhl taught there until it closed in 1956. The students were bussed to Evansburg. Roy Hadley drove the Holly Springs bus for twenty-three years. Carl Bauer followed Roy Hadley as driver for the area.

The Holly Springs School still stands, being used now as a community centre for the district. Power was installed in 1967 and gas in 1970. It is one of the original landmarks left.



Holly Springs School - 1935

(B.R.) Norbert Feldberg, Gordon Froment, Sydney Mark, Lucy Wolff, Elise Couves, Aileen Mark, Madeline Wolff, Ruby Welsh, Mildred Watson, Aileen Welsh, Alice Suprunovich, Irene Suprunovich. (Second Row) Stella Wadiak, Freda Saxer, Edna Welsh, Lena Saxer, Kathleen Wolff, Annie Suprunovich, Lena Suprunovich. (Sitting) Artie Wolff, Melvin Feldberg, Johnny Kuharchuk, Morris Welsh, Harry Kuharchuk, Billy Saxer, Stanley Gongowicz, Bernard Feldberg, Pete Malanchuk.



Holly Springs School in 1941.

Holly Springs School

by F. Brenenstuhl

It was in 1940 that the new Holly Springs School was built during the summer holidays by McGuire from Reno. The lumber, which was bought from Jack Read, Entwistle, was trucked in by Jack Cameron. The school was opened in the fall with Florence Brenenstuhl as teacher. The school yard was not cleared until three or four years later but the children did enjoy the new building which was certainly better than the old log one. The central heating system was an old oil drum made into a stove by Pete Bura. This lasted for a good number of years. The drinking water was carried in pails by the children who also did the janitor work.

In due time this school, like the others, was closed and the children along with Florence Brenenstuhl were bussed to Evansburg. Mrs. Brenenstuhl was the first and last teacher in Holly Springs new school. Florence continued teaching in Evansburg until her retirement in 1971.



Students who attended Holly Springs School during its last year in operation - 1956. (B.R.) Nick Wadiak, Billy Kuharchuk, Alex Semeniuk, Willie Brenenstuhl, Henry Wadiak, Donald Tuttle, David Schroder. (M.R.) Harvey Tuttle, Peter Suprunovich, Violet Suprunovich, Marjorie Tuttle, (F.R.) Frank Babcock, Kenny Feldberg, Jean Semeniuk, Verna Bura, Shirley Hutchinson, John Ohnysty, George Semeniuk.



Holly Springs Bus with driver Roy Hadley and Audrey and Frankie Babcock - 1958.

T.B. Morgan and Arthur Wolff Families

from Jubilee Section - Pembina Herald September, 1955

When Mr. T. B. Morgan arrived in the Holly Springs District in 1914, there were two colored families living a few miles to the west - the Jacksons and the Boones. Mr. Morgan was the first homesteader to settle in this area north of the Lobstick River.

A true pioneer, he and his three daughters and a man called Hugh Dawley drove up from Wyoming in two covered wagons drawn by two mules and three horses. They came to Junkins and then followed an old Indian trail east to the hay meadows on N.E.-16-54-8-W5 and pitched their tents. Hugh Dawley filed on this quarter while the Morgans homesteaded S.W.-22-65-8-W5. The log house they built by the creek stood for many years. After they had gone, it became the home of many of the early settlers for short periods until they could build their own cabins.

Lucy Morgan was married in 1915 to Arthur Wolff, a son of the first settler in the Park Court district, who had homesteaded there in 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wolff homesteaded on N.W.-15-54-8-W5 in 1915, a half mile south of Morgans. Here they lived for about twenty years clearing land, farming and raising a family. For many years they were the only settlers in that area.

In those days there were no roads, only trails. Early in the 20s they cut a road straight south through the muskeg for a winter road - in summer it could only be travelled on foot. Groceries and necessities had to be carried on Arthur's back. Later a trail was made through high land winding between two muskegs.

There were no new settlers until after the First World War. Mr. Wolff wrote a letter to the Farm and Ranch Review, which was published together with a snapshot showing a flock of sheep feeding in Morgan's pasture. To drought - stricken prairie farmers, this looked like Paradise. Many new settlers flocked in - some stayed and some moved further on. At times almost every quarter would have a homesteader on it.

The Couves, Tuttle and Welsh families arrived with children. Along with the Wolffs there were now enough children for a school. These families worked together and built a log school in 1926 on N.W.-22-54-8-W5. The school district they named Holly Springs after a school that had been built further west in 1916 and was no longer in use.

Life was hard in those early days on the homestead. To make a living Arthur Wolff went out harvesting in the fall. When the mine was running at Evansburg he hauled mine props and ties which he cut in the bush.



Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wolff, Marguerite, Pat and Otto.

They raised a family of six girls and three boys on the homestead. Marguerite, Pat, Otto, Lucy, Madeline, Arthur, Jr., Kathleen, Arlene and Mary.

In about 1937, the family moved to Evansburg where Mr. Wolff worked in the Municipal Office as Road Supervisor and Relief Officer. Another son, Robert, was born in Evansburg.

For several years the family ran a restaurant, the Wolff Den. Later Mr. Wolff established an insurance agency - Wolff Agencies Ltd.

The family moved to Edmonton in the 60s. Arthur Senior, Marguerite and Pat have passed away.

Hugh Dawley

by G. Schroder

As a young man Hugh Dawley and the Thomas B. Morgan family drove up from Wyoming in 1914 in two covered wagons drawn by two mules and three horses.

Coming by way of Wildwood and then on an old Indian trail, they reached the lush hay meadows of NE 16-54-8-W5. Here they stayed. The Morgans filed on SW 22-54-8-W5 across and half a mile up the road. They both filed on their homesteads in September 1914.

Later that year Hugh Dawley joined the armed forces, went overseas and never came back.

His quarter was covered with small spruce and jack-pine which were cut by early settlers for mine

ties and props. Blueberries grew there in great quantities.

In the early thirties this quarter was the site of Lorenzo and Ernie Eccles' sawmill. Later it was owned by Nick Selwachuk, Lawrence Feldberg, Emil Ponipal, and now by Bob Leshner.

Leonard Hewitt

Leonard Hewitt filed on S.W.-15-54-8-W5 on July 16, 1917. He returned to England during the war and never returned to Canada. His quarter was known as "Len's place" until purchased from the municipality by Henry Schroder in 1928.

M. Sylvester

by G. Schroder

Merte Sylvester filed on NW 27-54-8-W5 in April 1923. That spring the family (he had married a widow with two children) moved to the homestead.

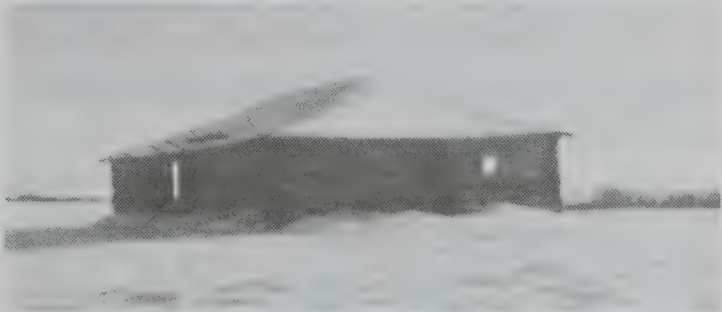
They built a house of squared logs which is still standing today although it is gradually sinking into the ground and has been empty for a long time.

The MacMurchys mention staying with the Sylvesters while building their own house in 1924.

The Sylvesters moved away soon after.

Fred and Alma Harris lived in the house while building on their homestead SW 27-54-8-W5.

Joe Kamitis homesteaded on the quarter in 1928 and lived in the house for several years. Dances were held here. Later Joe built a larger house. The farm is now owned by Sydney Mark.



House built by Sylvester, 1923. Oldest house left in the Holly Springs district.

The Couves Family

by Phyllis Couves Worrall and Elsie Couves Lefevre

Economics, more often than not, is the main reason for people immigrating to Canada from the old countries, but the love of adventure enters into it also. It was both factors that brought our people, - Charles Newnham Couves and his wife, Mary Diana, along with their children, to Canada in 1920. Father had worked for an import-export house near the docks of the great port of Liverpool. His work sometimes took him onto the foreign freighters in dock. He had no wish for any other kind of life but with Mother it was different. She had a wholesome ambition for a more affluent life - also the older son Charlie wished to go farming but had no hope of fulfilling that desire in England. So, spurred by the abundant publicity of the time, they decided to come to Canada.

Father and Charlie came first, headed for the British Columbia fruit country and the promise of jobs. But the summer of 1920 found them sleeping on the beach at Sicamous. They ended up in Calgary, and it was there in November of the same year that Mother, Frank, Phyllis and the unborn Elsie joined them.

The trip had been a very trying time for Mother, mainly fun for Frank and Phyllis once the brief stint of seasickness was over. But Mother had been desperately ill and was still unwell when she reached Calgary. She might have felt worse if she had known Phyllis was nearly washed overboard on the voyage!

A year and a half later we were heading for Styal and the bush country. Mr. Arthur Wolff's article in the Farm and Ranch Review had had its alluring effect and we were going homesteading. Dad and Charlie had each filed on a quarter. Mother, being a woman, could not.

It was May, 1923 when we stepped onto the platform at the Styal station. Parts of that trip still live in my memory though somewhat blurred. Frank and I rode on the back of the wagon behind our

household effects, Mother rode on the board seat holding Elsie and Mr. Wolff drove. First there was the crossing of the ford at the Lobstick River, climbing the bank and passing a small house with the distant figure of a woman working in her garden. "That's the Street place".

"Street" was only a name then but was soon to become attached to a couple who were the kindest and most hospitable people we've ever known. We crossed a semi-open piece of land and then were in the bush on a winding trail that dodged mudholes and trees.

We spent the first few days in the Wolff home, then moved to a log shack that was to be home until our own cabin was built a couple of miles away. Two impressions of those first days have stayed - the newspapers lining the walls of the Wolff home and my disappointment that the tree-climbing of my dreams was not to be - the trees grew close together, tall and bare, the first branches beginning far above my head.

That first summer must have been a nightmare for Mother. It was a caterpillar year for one thing. It was a rainy year too, with a leaky roof over our heads. Only two items were kept dry, both by virtue of raincoat coverings, the sack of flour and our prized phonograph. Even our precious books got stained, our beds wet. Mosquitoes and flies of all kinds were prolific. Cheese cloth covered the beds indoors, our heads and faces outdoors. Smudges were used in the evenings to clear the house of most of the pests. We were to experience all these difficulties for a number of years.

It was a tough grind, though as a child the full impact of its toughness did not hit me. Land clearing was something else to contend with. The easiest land - the least wooded - was cleared first, with hand saw, axe and burning. Later dynamite was used to blow out the big stumps. After the burning, came the work for Mother and kids, picking up and piling, coming home at the end of the day as black as stage minstrels. Most of the year our footwear was short laced rubber boots that bit into

the ankles leaving rough red rings that itched, burned and were most unsightly.

Winter brought problems of its own. Chickens and young pigs with frozen feet and ears were often to be found behind the stove, beds were piled with heavy quilts. Firewood was often insufficiently dried or “punky” and there was the ever present fear of fire. I remember how agile I became in climbing on the roof, pail in hand to douse the patches of burning tarpaper.

The oven of the stove was nearly always, when not used for baking, full of firewood drying. Once squirrels found their way indoors and got into the food. Money was very scarce. Dad and Charlie went road building to earn cash, leaving Mother alone with the children. Mother, a city girl, met the challenge of aloneness by at first pulling a dresser in front of the door to foil marauders. Later a tool box served the purpose. Finally it was only a knife jammed in the door. Mother had adapted.

Several other events of the first years stand out. There was the time we decided to enlarge the house. To do this the roof had to be removed and rebuilt differently. The tearing down was done, rafters and some boards replaced, when on a beautiful early May day, we went visiting. The weather changed. We came home to beds, furniture, everything covered with several inches of cold, dry snow. Carefully we lifted the bed covers and crawled in, disturbing as little snow as possible. But next morning we faced the confusion of finding mitts and boots and the discovery that our prize pitcher had cracked.

There was the fire we fought with wet sacks to keep it from the fine stand of evergreens behind the house. There were the bugs brought in with the raw green lumber. Every settler had them.

Phyllis remembers crying lustily on Mother’s comfortable bosom after reading a letter from England. It was not death and disaster, but telling of two party dresses the friend’s mother had made her for Christmas. Our dresses were dyed flour



Charlie Couves - 1923.

sacks, and one in ancient, second hand velvet.

Elsie, to this day, remembers that the Eaton Beauty doll of her dreams was, in reality, her old doll fitted with a new set of clothes made by Mother. Along with that was a hand made cradle, shaped by brother Charlie.

It is so easy to talk about the unhappy events and conditions, but there were many enjoyable times, some funny. There was Mother telling Frank and Phyllis to go to the meadow and bring back Bonnie’s foal, yet unseen. “Carry it” were her instructions. But the baby had legs nearly as long as we were high and he trotted home beside his mother as lightly as a bird.

Mother laughed for years about when Mrs. McMurchy was expecting George and she asked Mother if she would come to help. Now in England, Mother had either a doctor or a midwife, but she was game. Mrs. M. said, “I’ll tell you what to do” and in good time George arrived on the scene. Mother said after, that when she was bathing



Frank Couves, Gordon Froment on pond made by damming creek.

him, he nearly slid off her lap. She was so nervous.

One early spring day a lean and hungry coyote came slinking around the chicken house but Mother threw boxes at him until he slunk off through the bush.

The first dance was a very informal affair held in someone's house. We danced to the music of Tom Tuttle's mouth organ, which he played as he danced. At one time Frank Couves and Jack Tuttle played the fiddle and banjo for dances. At another, Mr. and Mrs. Feldberg played the fiddle and organ. The uncomplaining hours they played after a hard day's labor, still amaze me.

Holly Springs School was built in 1926. The first year ran from May to September with a University student as teacher. Frank Couves remembers helping to peel the logs and carrying bricks for Tom Tuttle who built the chimney. It was only a small cloakroom. The schoolroom itself was dominated by the teacher's desk and the wood heater. The early teachers, mostly city girls on their first job, must have been shocked when they saw where they had come. One year, when C.J. Couves was on the school board and teaching positions were hard to come by, one optimistic girl enclosed with her application all her music degrees. Optimist!

The highlights of the year were the picnic in June and the Christmas concert. On the picnic day, the sun always seemed to shine. What joy there was in the gathering of neighbors and the races - fifty and one hundred yard dashes, relays, egg and spoon races, sack races and three legged races. In good times the first prize was twenty-five cents, spent mainly for nickel ice cream cones, chocolate bars and pop. This was the only time in the year we had it. Oh, the Christmas concert! After the hours of practicing, the big night would finally arrive and we would proudly give our "pieces" on the rough planks that made up the stage. The climax was the arrival of Santa with a bag of treats for each child. One year at Gowanbrae, Mr. McCormick was playing Santa complete with costume. When he came in, Audrey called out "Hi, Daddy". There were only benches for the audience, and the desks were pushed around the edge of the room, all the better to hold winter coats and sleeping babies.

We played "Pirates Treasure" in the evergreens, we swam in Squaw Creek to the west and later we had our own swimming hole made by damming our small creek. We drove on a bone-shattering drive to a picnic at Wildwood using the back roads. That outing ended in a five mile hike home through the bush and dew-wet hay meadows in the early dawn for Charlie, Phyllis and a young teacher, Mr. McFarland.

There was the phonograph to listen to and later a radio made by our brothers. They also made a banjo and skis. We read our few books over and over, borrowed others from the Hutchinsons and never missed an issue of the Family Herald. There was a lot of horseplay on the part of the boys that kept us in stitches. When Blake Tucker came over from the west there was a riot. In the early days there was one memorable Sunday when three wagonloads of people gathered at the MacDiarmid farm.

No story can be complete without paying tribute to our little team of buckskin ponies, short, sturdy and full of heart. They were light but strong enough to travel the quagmires we called roads, tippy toeing over the floating corduroy and through the red



Sunday gathering at MacDiarmaid's place - 1924

Mrs. MacDiarmaid, Mrs. Street, Mrs. Couves, Mrs. McMurchy with George, Elsie Couves, Rita McMurchy, Isobel MacDiarmaid, Jessie MacDiarmaid, Phyllis Couves, Hazel McMurchy, Ralph Morgan, Alex MacDiarmaid, Mr. Couves, Charlie Couves, Louis Zollikofer.



Couves family, 1935. Phyllis, Frank, Elsie, Charlie, Mrs. Couves, Mr. Couves.

muck of muskeg holes. They served us well, Betty for many years and Bonnie a shorter time. She died one frigid winter day of cold and a shortage of feed.

The people of the district were of many religious persuasions. No church was ever built but most of the teachers held Sunday School as did the Wolff family in their home. At one period the Holiness

Movement gained many converts.

Charlie served in the R.C.A.F. during the second war and Frank in the Signal Corps. Dad died in 1938 and Mother in 1961. Both are buried in the Evansburg Cemetery. Charlie died in 1975 and is buried in Edmonton.

Charlie married Gladys Smith of Evansburg. They have four boys.

Phyllis married Jack Worrall of Ribstone. They have a boy and a girl.

Frank married Jean Blair of Red Deer, one of our teachers. They have two boys and three girls.

Elsie married Gene Lefevre. They have seven girls.

From the parents coming to this country, there are now eighteen grandchildren, thirty-three great grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

The Charles Couves Family

In 1936 at the lowest point of the depression, Gladys and Charles Couves of Holly Springs were married and began their life together on the farm not far from Holly Springs School. There were all the problems of the time, not the least being transportation, since most of the local roads were dirt and passed through all types of terrain, as those who used them can remember. A trip to Edmonton could be a real adventure; even to Evansburg could be, depending on whether one went on foot, horseback, by wagon, sleigh or car.

Conditions were improving economically, with the threat of war in Europe. The Royal Visit of 1939 was the highlight of that year. On the outbreak of war, in September 1939, drastic changes began for the Charles Couves family. Charlie took a diesel mechanics course with the idea of going into heavy industry for the duration but in 1940 he joined the R.C.A.F. as an Aero-engine mechanic. In the course of the next five years he served in

Brandon and Patricia Bay, trained at St. Thomas, then went to Saskatoon, Vulcan, Calgary and Moncton, being discharged in 1945. In 1946 he joined 418 (City of Edmonton) Reserve Squadron where he served till retirement in 1959.

After Charlie's discharge in 1945, he and Frank formed a company, together with Jim Howlett as Couves & Howlett, a radio and appliance sales and service shop. Charlie and family and Rose Smith left Evansburg for Vermilion for Charlie to take over the service station there. In July 1946, the family returned to Edmonton to live.

Charlie and Gladys were both active in community affairs, sports, music, R.C.A.F. Association and school matters. Charlie served several terms as president of the Strathcona Community League, as president of the St. George's Society, of 700 Wing R.C.A.F. Association and worked with the Yellowhead Road Association and the Executive Club.

After he sold out the business in 1959, he went to Northwest Industries, Montreal Trust, and the managership of National Refinishing Company from which he retired in 1972. Gladys returned to teaching in 1958 in the Edmonton Public School system and retired in 1972. They moved to Sorrento, B.C. in 1973. Charlie died in October 1975.

Their Family:

Charles Harry, Born 1937

Schooling: Elementary, Scona High School, N.A.I.T. He worked with (Mannix) Construction, Edmonton Transit, Midland-Superior long-distance trucking, and also operated his own trucking business. Presently he is with the City of Edmonton, Engineers Department. Harry is married to Arlene. They have one daughter Debbie and two grandsons, Robbie and Jason.

(Ted) Edwin Eric, Born 1938

Schooling: Scona High School, Royal Military College (electrical engineering), University of Western Ontario, M.B.A. He served in the

R.C.A.F., then R.C.A. in Montreal, Canadian Marconi (both of these in electronics), and is presently manager of Ferranti-Packard Transformer Co. in Niagara Falls, Ontario. Ted is married to Sandra. They have six children, Tony, Karen, Terry, Lori, Tracie and Andrew.

Peter Newnham, Born 1940

Schooling: Elementary, Scona High School, later courses at Ryerson Institute and University of Toronto. He was a member of the R.C.M.P. from 1960 - 1967. He worked for Steelcase of Canada, and is presently the Personnel Manager of the Renfrew County Board of Education, Pembroke, Ontario. He is married to Gloria. They have two children, Gregory and Catherine.

Christopher John, Born 1946

Schooling: Elementary, Scona High School, N.A.I.T. Business Administration. He worked with Johnson and Mathew, Alcan Ltd. and Parkland School Division. Presently he is in the construction business doing house renovations. He is married to Myrene, R.N. They have two children, Leanne and Scott.

Form D No. 419428

DOMINION LANDS.

RECEIPT

EDMONTON LANDS OFFICE
APR 5 1977
EDMONTON, ALTA.

Agency No. 86549
Agency,

1923

I hereby certify that I have received from Charles J. Power
Styal, Alta.

the sum of \$10.00, being the fee for HOMESTEAD.

Entry for Quarter of Section 21 Township 54

Range 8 West of 5 Meridian, subject to the right of the Province to take for road purposes, without compensation prior to issue of patent, such land as may be required not exceeding 2 1/2 per cent of the total area (O. in C. 20th Nov. 1907) and that he is, in consequence of such entry and payment, vested with the rights conferred in such cases by the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act.

1592

T. J. Royall
Local Agent

Dominion Lands Receipt - 1923.

ARTHUR WOLFF
STYAL ALTA.

Apr. 20/23.

C. N. Couves. Esq.

Dear Sir.

I rec. a Letter from your son. But accidentally mislaid it somewhere among these ~~hundreds~~ of other Letters I have rec. lately.

I believe he said something about buying a team & here But you can get them way cheaper in Edmonton also. Mack. and the Loke and he could Drive out from there on the Dargor Highway.

Do you intend to move up soon. I think he said something about it. I offered him a piece of Land for garden which might help you out a little I also offered him the House for a month or so till you get your Building is only 2 rooms but I spoke you can manage for a short time. There are several people after it so let me know soon. You can have it free, but you will have to put 4 windows in it which you can take out again when you go in your own and use. I can there, so you would not be anything out. Of course I could not let anybody have it all summer as I intend to build on to it and enlarge it in June. You sure have some nice level Land everybody that sees it would take it quick. You could break it a bit on it this summer & make quite a lot of hay.

especially if you come soon and get a little of the wood picked off of it. There have been 32- $\frac{1}{2}$ in. taken here the last month and practically all married people. some coming at once. Have you seen Mr. Woodbridge. Well, I guess I guess for I got to hurry and catch the train. Hoping to see you soon.

Yours Sincerely

Arthur Wolff

MAY FOR 1926
JANITOR SERVICE

FORM NO. 101
CHRISTIE SCHOOL SUPPLY LTD.
SCHOOL FURNISHINGS
BRANDON MAN.

ENDORSEMENTS

STAMP TAX

THIS CHEQUE IS NOT NEGOTIABLE IF DETACHED AND UNLESS SIGNED ON BACK WHERE NAMED. XI

1036

Sept. 8, 1926 \$5.00

POST OFFICE AND CASH

SECRETARY-TREASURER

HOLLY SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 2973

INTER NAME OF BANK

To the

Pay to the order of Treasurer Frank C. ...

the sum of Five

in full of account as on reverse side.

No. 2973

HOLLY SPRINGS

Province of Alberta

School District No. 2973

J. H. ...

SEC. TREAS.

Copy of cheque.

Willie and Freida Saxer

by Daughter Freida (Saxer) Babcock

My Mom and Dad were both born and educated in Switzerland. Dad was born on April 1st, 1900. His Dad (my Grandfather) had a few acres of land, a few head of cattle, goats and a horse or two. Land was scarce and it was hard to make a living there. Mom was born in a small town on July 21st, 1903. Her Dad (my Grandfather) worked in a factory.

At the age of twenty-four years, my Dad decided to immigrate to Canada where land was plentiful. So on February 4th, 1924, Dad and three of his chums sailed for Canada, landing in Halifax. From there they came west to Saskatchewan where they worked on farms to get some experience, but they found the winter very cold. Dad came west to Edmonton, and then to the Evansburg-Wildwood area, where he filed on the homestead and worked for the C.N.R. Then he started to build and clear a little land. It all had to be done by hand and was hard work. In May, 1925, his father joined him and

they worked together. In July, 1925, Mom and I came to Canada, arriving in Edmonton on the fifteenth at the old Immigration Hall on one hundred and first street, just north of the old C.N.R. Station. I was fourteen months old. Mom and I arrived a day ahead of schedule and we spent the next three days waiting there for Dad to pick us up. In the meantime, Dad was staying just across the street, meeting every train that came in and asking about us and we were there all the time. Mom, not being able to speak English, saw the sign, Cafe, across the street, and went there for coffee. The gentleman who waited on her could understand her and knew my Dad, who had been waiting there for the past three days also. Then came the trip to Wildwood by train, and from there to the farm, with team and wagon. There were no roads and no close neighbours. Mom found it very lonely and hard. Dad and my Grandfather worked very hard. They got cows, started to milk and bought more land. In January, 1928, my other Grandfather (Mom's Dad) came to Canada.

Grandma Keihl (Mom's Mom) passed away in



W. Saxer family 1937 - Freda, Mrs. Saxer holding Fred, Mr. Saxer, Lena, Emily, Bill, Irvine and Hans.



Threshing on the W. Saxer farm - 1942.



Four generations of the W. Saxer family-1981.

May, 1910, so only Grandfather came to Canada. Grandma Saxer (Dad's Mom) was to come to Canada with Mom and me, but there was a mix-up with her passport and she was unable to come with us. Grandpa wrote many letters to get her to come to Canada but she was too scared to travel the great distance alone. As a result she never came to Canada, and she passed away during World War II. Because of the war, we never received word of her passing until many months later.

Six more children were born after we came to Canada; Lena in August, 1926; Bill in August, 1928; Emily in June, 1931; Hans in June, 1933; Irvine in November, 1934; and Fred in December, 1936.

Going to school was hard as there were no roads. The winters were long and very cold. Among the highlights of the winters were the Christmas concerts. We used to spend weeks practicing. Then came Christmas, with a gift for each under the little spruce tree, which was all decorated and lit up with wax candles.

Our lives at home were very busy, also. Everybody pitched in and did their part whether it be baking, dishes, milking cows, chores, working in the field, etc. We always had a very big garden and sold vegetables in exchange for groceries. We also made butter and sold eggs.

Grandpa Keihl (Mom's dad) passed away August 20th, 1937, and is buried on the home farm. Grandpa Saxer passed away June 26, 1939, just before World War II and is also buried on the home land.

Mom and Dad still live on the home farm, as do Hans and Fred. They took over the farming. Mom and Dad have eleven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Lena and Pete live in Lloydminster, have two children, Sharon and Brian and two grandchildren.

Bill and Violet live on a farm one half mile west of the home place. They have four children, Carol,

Andrew, Elaine and Mark, and have two grandchildren.

Emily and Bill live on a farm near Lloydminster, have two children, Linda and Donald and two grandchildren.

Irvine and Sara live on an acreage near Stony Plain and have one daughter, Joy.

Frank and I (Freida) live on our farm two miles east of the home place. We have two children, Frank and Audrey, and three grandsons.

Mom and Dad have made three trips to Switzerland visiting their many friends and relatives. In 1973 my brother Irvine, his wife Sara, and daughter Joy and myself joined Mom and Dad on a trip back to Switzerland. While there I visited the town in which I was born and was pleased to find the house in which I was born still standing and in use.

The Morgan Family

Willis L. Morgan (Dad) filed on N.E.-9-54-8-5 on January 3, 1924 and Ralph, his son, on N.W.-16-54-8-5 on May 12, 1924. They came from Strathmore, Alberta.

They built a log house and barn and cleared a few acres of land. Their nearest neighbor was the Arthur Wolff family. When Louis Zollikofer brought his bride to the district, a wedding dance was held in Morgan's house.

Later another son, Willis, homesteaded in the area. He filed on N.W.-33-54-8-5 on December 10, 1929. Later he sold his quarter to Lawrence Feldberg for thirty dollars a year, for ten years. He bought his father's place when Dad Morgan married Mrs. Cory of Entwistle and went to live there.

The two brothers lived in their houses on the corner until Ralph moved to Edmonton after selling his quarter to Willis.

Later Willis sold his land to Bill Brenenstuhl, moved south of Evansburg and died in a house fire.

John Thornhill

John Thornhill was born in South Dakota. In the early 1900s he drove a team and wagon to Edmonton. He decided he didn't like the country and shipped his horses back by train and returned to South Dakota. (The railway had just been built). He came back to Canada in 1926.

He had a "gimpy" leg - one leg was two inches shorter than the other. Once a team had run away with him and his leg was broken. Instead of going to a hospital he got a vet to set his leg.

He filed on his homestead N.W.-10-54-8-5 in October, 1926. Then he went to work at Wainwright. When someone cancelled his homestead he came back and proved up his quarter. He built a cozy shack and buildings. He had a few acres of crop, horses, a few cattle and chickens. He believed in looking after his horses. He would feed them a gallon of oats every day even when they were on pasture.

He was a well-known figure in the district. Everyone liked to visit old John and listen to him spin his yarns. His sister gave him a portable gramophone which he used to take to the local dances to help out with the music.

He was a good illustration of the poem "Let me live in a house by the side of the road and be a friend to man."



At Mr. Thornhill's house, Doreen, Mary and Mrs. Prizeman, John Thornhill, "Cooking for threshers".



John Thornhills' house on his acreage.

He was everybody's friend. Sometimes he would spend the winter in South Dakota with his sister.

He sold his farm to Bill Brenenstuhl and then bought a forty-acre acreage from Willis Morgan. Here he lived with a few cows, a horse and some steers until he was hospitalized after a heart attack. He passed away in the hospital in 1956 or 1957. He is buried in Rapid City, South Dakota.

History of Mr. and Mrs. August Feldberg and Family

We came to the Styal district from Forestburg where August had been employed at the coal mine. We made our journey by train and arrived at the Styal station on December 24, 1924. August made the journey in the cattle car with two cows, two horses and some chickens. We had rented land southwest of Styal Station. In the winter of 1926, he applied for a homestead north of Styal, in the Holly Springs District. In 1927, we moved to this homestead which we were to call home. The only building on the property was an old, one-room log shack. The cracks between the logs were filled in as tightly as possible with moss to keep out the cold. As soon as we were able to get some lumber, the shack was enlarged into three rooms, as we now had five children.

Our food in those days was very simple with not too much in the way of variety. If we had flour,

bread and buns were made and enjoyed. Meat was in the form of an occasional animal from the bush, mostly deer which was cured and smoked. There were also lots of prairie chickens and partridges as well as rabbits. Once a bit of land was cleared, we had a vegetable garden which helped to add variety to our meals.

Our farm implements in those days were very simple. A Swedish bucksaw was used to clear the land at first until we bought a cross-cut saw in the 1930s. In later years, we used a double cross-cut saw. In the winter, the kids would cut and split the wood for the cook stove. This was usually done in the warmest part of the day, because clothes were scarce and only the oldest children had warm enough clothing to stand the cold winter.

To cultivate the land, we used a walking plow pulled by two or more horses. August would hang on to the handles and try to make as straight a furrow as possible, at the same time watching the horses' reins. Then he would go over the soil with a type of disc he had made, to try and chop up the lumps of sod. Then a drag was used to smooth the soil down in preparation for seeding. Seeding was done by hand, and then the float was again dragged over top to cover the seeds.

We always had chickens so had our own eggs. We also had a milk cow for milk and cream. For a while we had goats. I made butter from the goat cream. Young goats were really a nuisance. They would get up on fallen trees and walk up them until they were about ten feet off the ground and then jump down. They would walk along a slab fence



Mr. Feldberg, Pete Nielson clearing land - 1928.

and never once fall off! One spring we had twenty-two kids. I gave them milk in a dish on my knees. I didn't like that job so I soon got rid of them and got a cow. We had some trouble with wolves and lost a heifer to them. Through the years, we saw a lot of wildlife, namely moose, deer, bear and wolves.

There were lots of blueberries around our place and we enjoyed picking them and then eating them with cream and sugar. Every day was like a picnic. We would have our lunch in the blueberry patch and then go on picking until suppertime. There were also saskatoons a half a mile north of our house. The bushes were about six feet or more in height. They were loaded with the lovely sweet berries. We had to wear pants to step over the fallen trees and underbrush. When our pails were full, we'd take them home and come back with more empty ones to fill. Then there was the cleaning of the berries to be done, as well as the canning and jam-making. Now the caterpillars eat the bushes!

We also had our own tame strawberry patch which we were forced to let go in our later years as our health began to fail. About three miles north of us, there were raspberries to pick. On Sundays, we would get together with the neighbors and travel by team and wagon to the berry patch. We all enjoyed these times. The best berries always seemed to find their way into our mouths. They sure tasted good! We also had gooseberries out west on our place which also made good jam. In the fall, I would pick highbush cranberries which I cooked and put through a press to get the juice. Then I took the juice and added sugar and cooked the mixture and put it hot into jars. Then it was used for making cold drinks by adding some to water.

In those days the roads were a real disaster most of the time. We live six miles north of Highway 16 now that the road has been straightened out. However in the 1930s, it was merely a wagon trail full of mud holes, and with so many corners that it was almost two miles longer. The roads were so bad that it took most of the day to go to Styal for groceries and to get the mail. In wet years it was especially

bad and very hard on the horses, so we didn't make the trip too often.

Our nearest neighbors were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Harris and their daughter Brenda. There were three bachelors; John Gibbs, Willis Morgan, and Pete Neilson who lived over a mile away. One was an Englishman who had heart failure and died sitting up. When he was found, he was frozen stiff. The snow was so deep that winter that he was taken out on a stone boat pulled by horses. He was a peaceful man in his seventies who had lived the life of a hermit.

In June of 1927, when our youngest son Bernard was born, the roads were very muddy but Mrs. Harris came every day to bathe the baby. The mosquitoes were so bad that she made a smudge every day in a pail and set one in each room so we could get some rest. August got some netting to put over his hat so he could work outside. The Harris family left soon after for Fred to resume his job elsewhere. A man named Joe then came to live on their place. He had a team of horses which he was using one day to pull stumps. The chain broke and his horses came galloping down the road across our yard. The first horse slipped by the gate and fell down. The second one came running from behind and slipped and fell on the other one.

Every winter, starting in 1926, August worked at Schleker's and later Eccles' lumber camps, sawing logs and skidding them into piles. Many winters were spent working in the bush to make a living. One winter in the 1930s August went to saw logs at a camp east of us. When he came home one night, a tree had blown across the road. It hooked in the hames on the harness and flew back and hit him in the face and broke his nose. The horses came home and stopped at the house as usual. When he didn't come in, the oldest boy, Lawrence, went out with the lantern and found him lying in the back of the sleigh covered with blood.

In the 1930s, he went to work at McCormick's camp. All the men in the area were employed in either Eccles' camp or McCormick's camp. As Mc-



Mr. and Mrs. Feldberg and family - 1933, Gus, Bernard, Mrs. Feldberg, Gertie, Melvin, Lawrence, Evelyn, Ivan, Norbert.

Cormick's mill was operating north west of our place, the lumber was hauled out with horses and sleighs and piled at our place for trucks to haul later. There were over one million feet of lumber piled there. One night in June of 1938, after midnight we saw a red flash through the window, and when we looked out, we saw the big pile of lumber was on fire. It was a fierce glow and frightening to look at. We got the neighbors to help fight the blaze but only one building was saved. Men packed buckets of water from the creek nearby all night long. What a loss it was! In the morning, the men ate breakfast at our house. We had many fires come to threaten our home through the years, and we had to be ready to fight fire at any time.

We began to make plans to build a new house so began squaring logs at the mill. In 1939-40 we built our house and moved in. We later built on an addition and a porch, and the house remains that way today. We also built a barn of square logs.

The children went to school one mile south of us, until 1940 when a new school was built, which the younger children attended.

Also in the 1930s a road crew of men working with horse-drawn road equipment began building a new road. A large tent was set up as a cookhouse to feed all the hungry men. We never thought in those

days that this road would become a highway within a stone's throw of our house!

Everything was not always hard work and hardship in those days. We also had entertainment in the form of house parties and dances, usually with "pick-up" orchestras or records.

When the war broke out in 1939, our son Ivan enlisted and went overseas in 1941. In 1945 another son, Melvin, was drafted and went overseas the same time as Ivan came home wounded. The oldest son, Lawrence, went to Calgary for training but didn't have to go overseas.

August and I have seven children: Evelyn Esther born April 27, 1917, married Herbert Hutchinson in June 1939 and raised two children, Shirley and Fred.

Lawrence August born August 29, 1918, married and raised two children, Kenneth and Julie.

Ivan Harvey born January 28, 1920, married in 1943, and raised five sons, Tony, Donald, Michael, Nigel, and Mark.

Norbert Arley, born May 12, 1922, has three children, Sharon, Arnold and Laura.



Melvin and Lillie Feldberg Wedding - 1949, The Minister, Mike Konkolus, Mary Stec, Jim and Millie Stewart, Melvin and Lillie Feldberg.



The Wedding of Doris Hutchinson and Norbert Feldberg. (B.r.) Bernard Feldberg, Pastor Hurtig, Margaret Neuhold, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mr. Feldberg, Mrs. Feldberg. (F.R.) Norbert, Doris, Shirley Hutchinson.

Melvin Allen born April 18, 1925, married and raised four children, Judy, Susan, Jeff, and Faye.

Bernard Gustav was born June 2, 1927.

Gertrude Gwendolin, married Ed Schuster and raised two children, Linda and Marvin.

August passed away August 12, 1964 at the age

of seventy years and five months. I continue to live on our original homestead in the Holly Springs area and have eighteen grandchildren and twenty-six great-grandchildren.

A Short History of Ivan H. Feldberg

I, Ivan Henry Feldberg, second son of August and Wanda Feldberg, was born on January 28, 1920. I lived with my family on a farm and did some sawmill work. I was confirmed in the Church of England in Entwistle in 1937.

On September 9, 1941, I volunteered in the 49th Loyal Edmonton Regiment and served for four and three-quarter years. I trained for four months in Camrose and Currie Barracks, Calgary, and then in January 1942 left for England. I didn't arrive there until March, 1942, because of delays.

While training in England, I met Margaret A. Pelling whom I married on May 5, 1943.

After a few months of army training, we finally went into action on July 10, 1943 in Sicily and later in September we landed on the mainland of Italy. I was first slightly wounded in the left shoulder on July 17, 1943 and seriously wounded on May 23, 1944. The third time I was very seriously injured on October 18, 1944. I finally arrived back in Canada in March of 1945. I had to have several operations on my third wound. Upon coming across the Atlantic in March 1945, I later found out that my younger brother, Melvin, and I had passed each other in the mid-Atlantic. He served for several years overseas.

Margaret and our first son Tony arrived in Edmonton in mid-March, 1946. We lived on a farm for a short while, and after having another son, Donald, we went back to England in 1947. We lived there for twenty-eight and a-half years and had three more sons. Our first two sons are now in Canada. Donald came back on April 18, 1976, Margaret and I on June 6, 1976 and Donald's family on June 13, 1976. Tony and family returned on March 29, 1981.

We have five grand-daughters and four grandsons. The three younger sons are still living in England with one child each.

We are now living in the Village of Evansburg, Alberta.

Herbert (Bert) and Evelyn Hutchinson

by Evelyn Hutchinson and Estelle Hale

Bert came to Evansburg in March, 1924, just before his sixteenth birthday, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hutchinson, his sisters Edna and Estelle and his brother Aleck. His history prior to our marriage in 1939 is included with his father's, Thomas Hutchinson, with whom he had a close working association over the years.

Bert and I, Evelyn Feldberg, were married June 21, 1939, at which time we took up residence on our farm in the Gowanbrae area. Our first house was a one-room shack which we later enlarged with the addition of a log extension of one more room.

I had come to the Holly Springs area with my parents in 1927 at the age of ten years. We had lived south of Styal for two or three years before moving to our homestead in the Holly Springs area. We were a large family with my brothers, Lawrence, Ivan, Norbert, Melvin and Bernard, and sister Gertie. For my parents, it was a big job to make a living for all of us.

Bert was active in community affairs. He served on the municipal council for two years. In the 1940s Bert joined the Farmer's Union, (this organization later became known as Unifarm).

In 1949, Bert and Bill Brenenstuhl became leaders of the 4-H Dairy Calf and Grain Clubs. Bert was a leader for twenty-five years. The last two years he required an assistant due to failing health.

We formed a small orchestra and played for dances at Gowanbrae and Holly Springs in the early 1940s. Bert played the violin, I, the guitar, and Jack Tuttle, the ukelele.



Bert Hutchinson - 1940.

We built a new house in 1952, seven rooms in all. We had running water, a sewer system, as well as our own power plant. Such luxuries were to be appreciated.

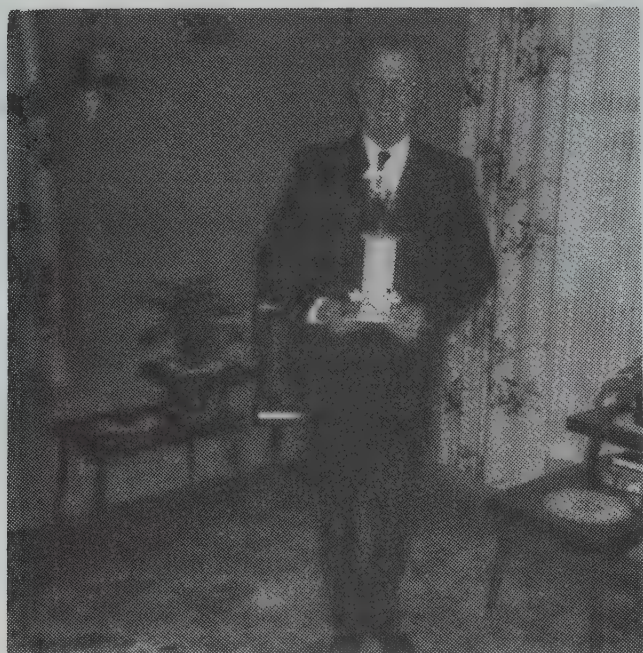
Bert was elected to the United Church Board in 1960 as a steward. After his two year term, he continued on as an elder for nine years.

Bert's awards for his twenty five years as a 4-H Club Leader are very impressive. They include trophies, award certificates, cuff links, pins, engraved trays, etc., all in recognition of his work.

My work as a farmer's wife kept me busy. I always had a big garden, lots of flowers and a lawn to care for. Canning, freezing, pickling and jam making were full-time work. Besides these, I raised chickens and helped Bert whenever possible. We sold eggs and cream to regular customers in Evansburg.

The Wildwood Fair was always a challenge to me. I won prizes every year in many classes including baking, sewing, knitting, canning, garden produce, eggs, sheep and poultry.

I was also active in community affairs. I was a member of the Holly Springs Club and served as their secretary for years. In 1961 we formed a Women's Institute group which lasted for about five years. This later became the Holly Springs Community League, a club which is still active. I served as their secretary for several years, for which I received an engraved tray when I left the district to move to Evansburg.



Bert Hutchinson receiving 4-H Leaders Award - 1962.

We raised two children, Shirley and Fred. Shirley attended school at Holly Springs for three years, then Evansburg schools until she graduated in 1966. She won awards in typing and shorthand skills, of which she has made good use. Shirley started 4-H club work when she was eleven years old. She won many awards, quitting only when she went to work at Wolff Agencies where she was employed until her marriage to Gilbert Getson in January, 1970. They were married at the Evansburg United Church where she had attended Sunday School and church services for a number of years.

Shirley and Gilbert have two sons and a daughter and reside at Chip Lake. Upon the death of her father-in-law, Shirley took over as agent for The Co-operators Insurance Company. She first operated in Wildwood and later in 1980 moved her office to Evansburg, where she is still located.

Fred took all his schooling-Grades 1 to 12-in Evansburg. He excelled in sports, receiving certificates of merit in all branches of sports. He served on the Student Council for two years at Grand Trunk High School.

He started 4-H club work at age ten, starting first with Field Crops, then Beef. He has many trophies and awards for his 4-H work, among them awards for judging animals at the Edmonton Exhibition.

He left 4-H work when we sold the farm. Fred is now at Mayo, Y. T. where he is part-owner of a Department Store.

In 1972, we achieved one of Bert's fondest dreams when we made a trip to Goodwater, Saskatchewan, where we visited the old farm where he had lived as a young boy.

We sold our farm in October, 1974 and moved to Evansburg where I still reside. I joined the United Church Women and I served as Church Board Treasurer for over four years. I am now in my second term as president of the U.C.W. I am also a director of the Senior Citizen's Society at Heritage House.

Bert died of cancer in August, 1975 and is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.



The Bert Hutchinson family, Sept. 1969. Evelyn, Bert, Fred and Shirley.

The Stephens Family

by Gladys Schroder

My parents, Edward M. Stephens and his wife Maude Giles, came from the city of London, England, in August 1913 to a "ready-made" C.P.R. farm in the Strathmore district, east of Calgary. He had been a policeman in the city of London who came to Canada for health reasons. They brought their two small children, Gladys (me) and Nancy. Teddy was born in 1917.

Life was not easy on the prairies. After fourteen years of struggle, they decided to try the bush.

In the spring of 1927, Dad filed on a homestead NW 22-54-8-5 in the Styal area. The family, along with the Boswards, an elderly couple from Strathmore, moved their settler's effects by train. They landed at Styal on May 2, in a snowstorm. Everything had been green when they left Strathmore. What a change!

They lived for two months on the old Purin homestead along with the Boswards. Nancy and I arrived early in July, having stayed behind to finish school. We had a ride with Mrs. Bosward's niece's fiance who came up for a visit. The road was terrible from Edmonton west - dirt, mud and no gravel. He didn't like the country and never came back.

Early in July, we moved the five miles north through mud and muskeg to the Gainsley quarter, as it was then called. It had been the Morgan homestead and first home to many incoming settlers. Here we stayed for almost five years. Our nearest neighbours were the Arthur Wolff family.

Dad's health at that time was much better. He had a small family sawmill to cut lumber for the house which was built on the homestead.

Teddy went to the Holly Springs School which was a log building on our quarter. His first teacher was Mr. Bill Bailey.



Mr. Stephens, Nancy, Gladys and Ted Stephens - 1928.



Frank Schroder, Nancy, Gladys, Mrs. Stephens, Mr. Stephens, Charlie and Bob.

When we came to the district, Dad became secretary of the School Board. He remained secretary until the Edson School Division took over. During the Depression years he saw many teachers come and go. Conditions were often difficult for young, inexperienced school marms and they didn't stay long in the bush.

Most of this time, Nancy and I were away from home while going to school and later teaching. We spent our summers at home.

Dad's health was never very good. He had had rheumatism for many years but later it got much worse and left him severely crippled. He also developed asthma and heart trouble. But he loved the farm and never wanted to leave it. He had sheep and goats which he herded on the hills.

He grew a wonderful garden and was always experimenting with new varieties of vegetables and flowers. He had a little greenhouse on the south side of the house. He also kept bees for several years.

He was a great reader and liked to discuss politics with his neighbors. He passed away in 1960 at the age of seventy-seven.

By contrast, Mother was always well. She was always cheerful in the face of many discouragements.

We, as children, I am sure, never realized what a change it must have been from a city home to a prairie farm and later to a bush homestead. The hard water, the mud, the mosquitoes and little black flies, all had to be contended with but she took them in her stride.

As Dad was unable to take part in many community activities, she took his place going to all the picnics, concerts, and the dances when we were younger. She used to help the school teacher with music as she was quite musical. She had brought her piano from England along with other furniture. They moved the piano once or twice to the school on a stone-boat but decided that was really too hard on the piano. She directed the singing as she had learned to sing in England. Her voice always led the singing whether in songs or hymns. When Nancy taught at Gowanbrae she would walk over to our place and then play the organ at the school for their concerts.

She was a great walker, often walking to any place she wanted to go.

She was a charter member of the Holly Springs Women's Institute and took part in all its activities. When the Community League was formed, she was one of the first members.

In July, 1933, Henry Schroder and I were married at home by the Rev. J.B. Howard.

In July, 1935, Frank Schroder and Nancy were married, also at home by the Rev. J. B. Howard.

After we moved to the Holly Springs district, Mother and I worked together plucking chickens, making quilts or picking berries.

She lived to be ninety-three passing away in May, 1977.

Both she and Dad are buried in the Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Edmonton.

Teddy still lives on the home place.



Mr. and Mrs. Stephens with Gladys, Ted and Bob, Jim and David Schroder.

Orvie Raymond Family

by Beatrice Hargreaves

John Raymond and family of four, all born in Ontario, left Ontario in 1913. They came west as far as Manville, Saskatchewan, to take up a homestead.

Later, the oldest son, Orvie worked his way west to Burns Lake, B.C. There he built himself a small house. He worked at making ties for the railroad, for a living, at which he did quite well. Then someone, jealous because he did so well, set fire to the house and Orvie lost everything he owned. He returned home to Saskatchewan to help on the farm.

At this time, Cecil Welwood of Magnolia, Alberta, was in the Manville District to help with the harvesting. He told Orvie of people getting homesteads in his part of the country, west of Edmonton.

This looked like a good chance for Orvie to get a farm of his own so he came to Alberta and in December, 1928, he filed on a homestead, NE-15-54-8-W5 north of Styal. Here he built a house and other buildings, cleared land and dug a well.

When going to visit his friend, Cecil, who lived at home with his folks, he met Cecil's sisters, one



Mr. and Mrs. Orvie Raymond.

being Lilian, whom he later married in April of 1930.

They went to live on the homestead, both working very hard clearing land for crops and a garden. There was just a trail three quarters of a mile to the main road.

In January of 1931, on a very cold blizzard day, I, Beatrice Raymond, arrived on the scene. There was no doctor because of the bad storm. The nearest neighbor, Mrs. Wolff, acted as midwife. She lived three quarters of a mile away. The doctor did make it the next day.

In 1934, we moved to Langley, B.C. Here, again, it was a lot of hard work to clear land and build a house and other buildings. Eventually, we had a nice little fruit farm.

My mother died in June of 1947 and is buried in

New Westminster. My father suffered poor health most of his life. He died from cancer on his sixty-seventh birthday in September, 1966, and is buried in Langley, B.C.

In September, 1950, I married Len Hargreaves of Vanderhoof, B.C. We lived in Burnaby, B.C. most of our married life. We have four children: Brian, the oldest who plans to get married in May, 1982; Marlene, who works in a bank in Calgary when she isn't busy travelling; Arleeta and Glynis, living at home here in Langley.

My husband retired last year to a little hobby farm. We enjoy the country fresh air, also the peace and quiet of country living.

John Gibbs

by Sydney Mark

John Gibbs was born in England. He was what was called a "Gentleman's gentleman" and worked as a butler for a retired colonel in High Society.

He came to Canada and worked on farms in Manitoba and Saskatchewan for twenty years. In 1928 he came to the Styal area and homesteaded on N.E.-33-54-8-W5 now owned by Walter Sherry.

He was a hard worker - clearing land and building his farmstead.

There was no road the last three quarters of a mile to his place only mud. John broke his leg once and it was several days before he was found. He was in the hospital for some time. When he came home the road was graded to his gate.

He dug a well twenty feet deep with a pail and shovel. He put up log buildings, one of which is still standing. Sometimes he would get the days mixed up and would start off for groceries on a Sunday. Someone would stop him and tell him what day it was.

He became ill and was hospitalized and after he recovered he was persuaded to go into a nursing home. A taxi was called. On the way, he talked the taxi driver into taking him to the bus station. When

he arrived at Styal, the store keeper took him home with a load of groceries. Neighbors kept an eye on him.

When the local doctor came to check up on him he said he only wanted to be left alone.

About 1960 he was found sitting up in his bunk - frozen stiff. He had marked off the days on the calendar until five days before. It was thought he must have had a heart attack.

He was a good neighbor and minded his own business. Why he came to a homestead in the bush, no one ever knew.

Konkolus Family

by Mike Konkolus

Mr. Joe Konkolus came to Alberta, Canada, from Poland in May, 1928 and settled in the Wildwood district. In that same year he started to work for the C.N.R. In one and a half years, he earned enough money to pay for the passages for his family from Poland - his wife Katherine, son Mike and daughter Jessie.

The family sailed from Poland to Halifax and then came by train to Wildwood, Alberta in the year 1929. In that same year they took up a homestead nine miles north east of Wildwood. The homestead was all timber and bush with no open land. They built a log cabin. The outside and inside walls were filled with moss and clay to keep the frost out. They also made a baking oven to bake bread. The oven was made of clay and rock. The top of the oven was made half round with the rocks on the bottom in the oven. The fire had to be lit with wood inside the oven so that the rocks could get good and hot. After about two hours the rocks got hot, then the fire was pulled out from inside the oven and the oven was cleaned. After that was done, the bread dough was put on top of the rocks for baking. It took about two and a half to three hours for baking. The bread was well baked, and had a great taste. Also we made a flour grinder to grind wheat into flour. The grinder was made of two big rocks. The rocks had to be chiseled one side

flat, the top rock had to be turned by hand with a handle fastened to it. The wheat was put in between the two rocks. You turned the top rock around and there you were grinding wheat into flour. Also, thanks to the wild animals - moose, deer, rabbits and bush partridge, they had meat.

The family worked hard to clear some land by hand, and to break the land with horses.

Four more children were born to the family on the homestead. Ed, Jennie, Rudy and Victor. Most of the children went to the Holly Springs school - the log cabin school that was built in the district. The children had to walk four and a half miles one way, nine miles a day mostly walking through bush trails and in winter time with snow up to three or four feet deep.

As the years went by, the Konkolus family worked hard to make a living. The first year he and his family moved to the homestead there was no transportation. He had to carry groceries or a sack of flour on his back from Wildwood to the homestead nine miles one way to feed his family. Again as the years went by, Mr. Konkolus and his oldest son went to work at the bush camps. They worked a few more years and bought more land. They also bought some timber and a saw mill. They went logging for four winters sawing lumber and nailing coal doors.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Konkolus worked on the farm until 1957. In that year they sold their property, and moved to Edmonton, Alberta. They bought a home in the city and have lived in Edmonton twenty years. In 1976 they decided to sell the home in the city and move to Winfield, B.C. They built a new home there to retire in.

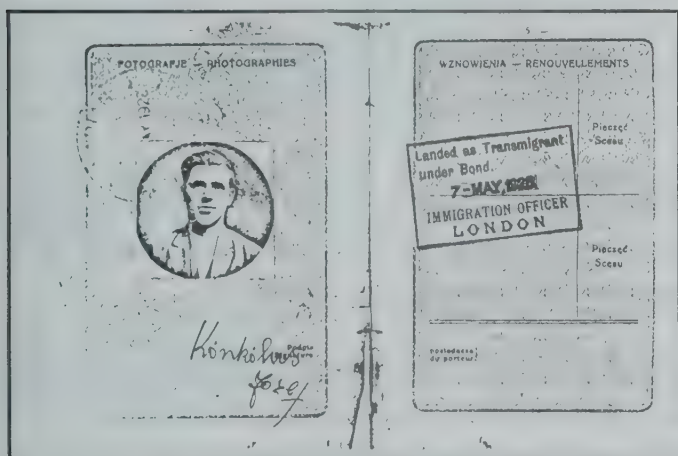
All the Konkolus family married. Some live in Edmonton, Vegreville, Alberta, and West Bank, Kelowna, B.C. There are fourteen grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

Unfortunately in Nov. 1978 Mr. Joe Konkolus passed away in Winfield, B.C. and was buried in St. Michael Cemetery, Edmonton, Alberta.



Konkolus Family

Ed, Rudy, Mike, Jessie, Jennie, Victor. Seated are Mrs. Konkolus and Mr. Joe Konkolus.



Passport for Mr. Joe Konkolus when immigrating to Alberta - 1928.

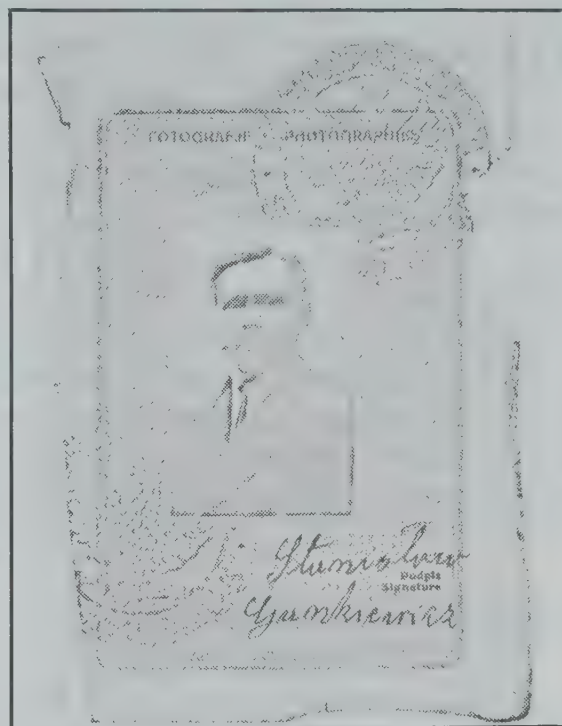


Joe Konkolus working on the railroad in 1928.

Mr. Joe Konkolus served in the army in the first world war 1914 - 1918 in Europe.

Mike Konkolus also served in the Army in 1944 - 1945.

Also an honorable mention for Mr. Ytunislev Gonkievicz. He immigrated to Canada, settled in the Wildwood District in the year 1926, on a homestead ten miles north east of Wildwood. In the year 1945, Mr. Ytunislev Gonkievicz passed away at the age of eighty two years. He was buried in the cemetery north of Wildwood. He was the father of Mrs. Katherine Konkolus.



Passport for Mr. Ytunislev Gonkievicz - 1926.

William Harvey Thompson

by G. Schroder

William Harvey Thompson filed on his homestead SE 28-54-8-W5 in August, 1928 and moved on to it in 1929. He built a log cabin and other buildings. He worked in local lumbering camps. One winter he went to B.C. and came back with a wife and her little girl.

He was a controversial figure and put Styal and the Holly Springs district in the news.

As reported in the Edmonton Journal of Feb. 17, 1932: "Farmer fires on Police. Styal Homesteader

sends bullets whistling at A.P.P. - is barricaded in haymow. A.P.P. officers at Styal, Alberta, today are seeking the arrest of a southern disciple of the Arctic's famous fighting trapper (Albert Johnson). Barricaded in the hay-mow of his barn 72 miles west of Edmonton, Harvey Thompson, farmer, on Tuesday night successfully held off an A.P.P. group who attempted his arrest on a petty theft charge."

Feb 18, "Incidentally the daughter attended Holly Spring school Wednesday as usual."

Feb 20, 1932. "The present situation may best be described as an armed truce. There are now nine members of the force here. There are three courses open - the police could shoot the man down from a distance; they could engage in a gun battle, or they could continue parleying with him in the hope of bringing him to reason."

No alarm is felt in the district, it is evident from the fact that a dance held Friday evening, half a mile from the Thompson homestead, was well attended by both men and women. Nearly seventy were present and enjoyed dancing in a small room. Thompson apparently will trouble no one so long as all keep outside the deadline of his front fence."

Eventually he was persuaded to surrender.

Feb. 22, "The articles described as stolen were two swivel hooks, a logging chain, a brace and two bits."

March 8, 1932, "Residents Flock to Witness Trial Harvey Thompson"

"Holly Springs school house was crammed to its capacity Tuesday afternoon as the trial of Harvey Thompson, homesteader, opened before Magistrate Esten Williams. People came from far and near to attend the trial, the most interesting case this pioneer district has ever known. Thompson is charged with theft and resisting arrest."

March 9, 1932. "Harvey Thompson, Styal homesteader who exchanged shots with provincial

police officers recently, and subsequently surrendered, was fined fifty dollars when he appeared before Magistrate Esten Williams, Tuesday, charged with resisting arrest. The fine has been paid by the homesteader's sister, a resident of Vancouver. On being arraigned, he was charged with resisting arrest and with the theft of several small articles from the mill of W. McCormick. He entered a plea of not guilty to the theft count. After hearing the evidence the theft hearing was adjourned for two weeks."

March 30, 1932. "Theft charges against Harvey Thompson, homesteader of Styal, were dismissed by Magistrate Scott here Tuesday. The charges were those which gave rise to the sensational case of resisting arrest in which Thompson held police at the point of a gun for several days."

So ended the case. He left the country in 1939. His quarter is now owned by Melvin Feldberg.

The Bachelors

by G. Schroder

In the late twenties and early thirties many bachelor homesteaders settled in the Holly Springs District. Each built his own little log shack, and cleared land with axe and grubhoe.

Many of them worked in the local sawmills in the winter and went out harvesting in the fall. One bachelor claimed he had figured out how to live on ten cents a day and he probably did.

Life on a homestead was a lonely existence. They could often be seen, rubber boots on feet, packsack on back, carrying a gallon coal-oil can and plodding down the muddy trail. Their destination was the local store and post office at Styal. Here, they would pick up their mail, a few groceries and catch up on the latest news. Visits to neighbors, and attending local dances, picnics and concerts were also part of their social life.

Some stayed for a few years and then moved on to greener pastures. Others stayed and became farmers. One or two became "bushed" and had to be taken to an institution. There is a story told of a

man, name unknown, who came to Couves' place one day asking for a rope to hang himself. Mr. Couves invited him into the house and made him some tea. The man calmed down and then went on his way. Later he met Mr. Street on the road and complained to him that he had tried to drown himself in the Lobstick River but the ice was too thick. "Come home with me and I'll lend you a gun", said Mr. Street. So off they went. When they got to Mr. Street's shack, Mr. Street said casually "But I haven't any bullets. Wait here and I'll go get some". The man sat down, with Mev Wilson, a young bachelor neighbor, keeping an eye on him. Mr. Street walked to Evansburg some five miles away to report to the police who came to get him. Poor Mev, as you can imagine, anxiously awaited his slow return.

Mentioned elsewhere in the book are John Thornhill, John Gibbs, Willis and Ralph Morgan, Charlie Taylor, Lawrence and Bill Mark, Harvey Thompson, and Joe Kamitis. Following are some other bachelors of those early days.

Peter Nielsen filed on S.E.-32-54-8-W5 on November 9, 1928.

Scottie Irons lived on S.E.-22-54-8-W5 for a few years. He was a stone mason by trade and built brick chimneys.

Karl Anderson

Karl Anderson, another young Dane, filed on S.W. 23-54-8-W5 on October 16, 1929. He farmed there for several years. Jack Tuttle now owns the property.

Frederick Walter Berriman

Frederick Walter Berriman filed on S.E. 10-54-8-W5 on August 2, 1930. He built a long log cabin with a door at one end and a window at the other. One summer hornets or wasps built a huge nest just above his door. For a time all went well. Suddenly they decided to attack. Beating a hasty retreat, the poor gentleman was forced to crawl through the window for an entrance and an exit for quite some

time, until freeze-up put an end to their aggressiveness.

He went to the store one bright moonlit night, thinking it was day-time. He was quite put out when he found the store closed. He moved away soon after this.

Niels Leonhardt Andreas Nielson

Niels Leonhardt Andreas Nielson, a young Dane, filed on N.W. 14-54-8-W5 on August 16, 1929. He was there for only a short time. He became mentally ill and died in an institution. His quarter is now owned by George Semeniuk.

Frank Lester Roberts

Mr. Frank Lester Roberts filed on N.E. 22-54-8-W5 on September 11, 1929. He had been a cowboy in the United States and was a very friendly, pleasant person. But at night he would lock his door and let no one in. A tar-paper blind hid any chink of light. It was rumoured he slept with a gun under his pillow. Why he behaved so strangely at night remains a mystery. After he left, the quarter was filed on by Napoleon Lefevre in 1933. It is now owned by George Semeniuk.



Ted Stephens with goat family.

Alex Shelegaff

Alex Shelegaff filed on N.E. 23-54-8-W5 on October 2, 1928. After he left, some boys found a family of skunks under the floor of his shack. When they dispatched them, the air was so polluted every family down the creek thought they had been visited by a skunk.

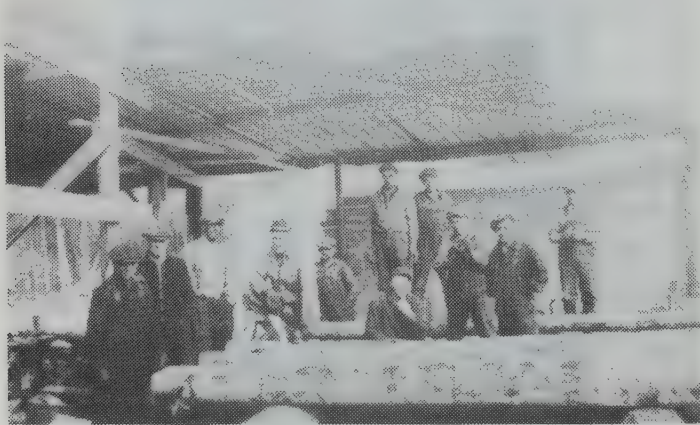
The Brenenstuhl Family

by Florence Brenenstuhl

It was in the year of 1925 that William Brenenstuhl, from Spruce Grove, headed west with Eccles Lumber Company and set up camp at Lobstick, west of Styal. After working there for a number of years the camp was moved to the Selwaczuk's place in the Holly Springs District, which is now farmed by Bob Leshner. Other camp sites were set up at Feldbergs, Kuharchuks and north of Hicks. All this time Bill was the steam engineer so when the camp was moved to Wildwood, then to Obed, Bill went along, having worked for Eccles for twenty five years.

Florence Brenenstuhl came from Killam and was teaching at Wildwood at the time of their marriage. They moved to the Holly Springs District where they have resided ever since.

Bill and Florence are still living in the Holly Springs District with their son Willie, who has taken over the farming operations.



Eccles' Camp Holly Springs.

Bill and Willie were active members of the 4-H Club, both being leaders of the Grain Club for a number of years.



Mr. Brenenstuhl receiving award, and Terry Kremeniuk.

John Anderson Family

John Emanuel Anderson and his wife lived on his homestead, S.W. 10-54-8-W5 in 1929. A baby was born there.

John was a butter-maker for an Edmonton creamery and was away from home a great deal.

Once when he was away, his wife heard a noise. She looked up to see a bear staring in at her through the small cabin window. Fortunately the bear went on his way!

The family moved away soon after that.

Carl and Mabel Swanson

by E. A. Nixon

The Swanson family came to Canada from Sweden in 1907, hoping to find a more prosperous way of life. With them came their son Carl, who was ten years old, a sister Emma, and brother Her-

bert. An older sister Ingaborg chose to stay in Sweden.

They settled on a farm at Prague, Alberta (half way between Killam and Viking) and lived in a frame house built by their father.

It was here their younger sister Sophie was born. For three years they farmed there, breaking the land with oxen. Travel was done mostly across country on high land although there were some dirt roads.

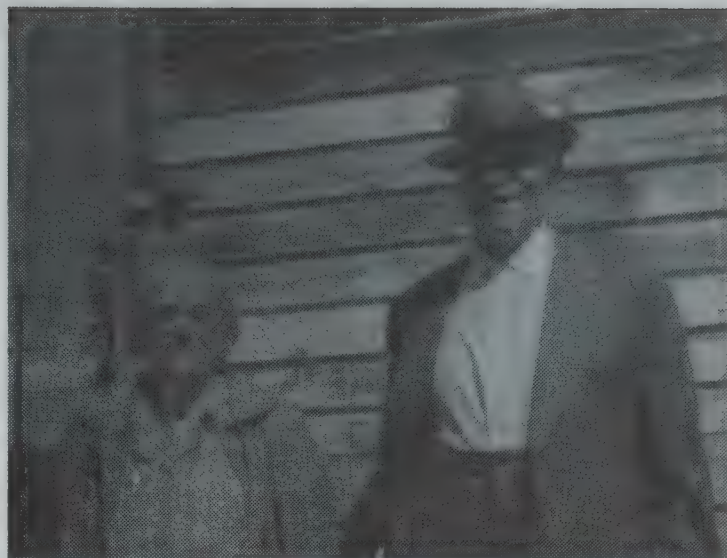
In 1910 they bought a team of horses and moved to a farm at Innisfree, Alberta.

The family spoke Swedish and Carl's mother kept busy with her house work and children and was quite content to stay at home and so learned little of the English language. They were fortunate to have some Scandinavian neighbors whom she visited. She loved to read her Swedish Bible.

Carl, along with other members of the family, worked hard on the farm as they grew up. Then one day he met a young lady named Mabel who had not long arrived from England and was living in his neighborhood. He, a rugged red haired farm boy, was very attracted to her nice complexion and lovely black hair. Life took on a new meaning for him and he persuaded her to be his lifetime partner.

Leaving Innisfree together they came west to a place called Junkins. Later the name was changed to Wildwood. They had little in the way of material goods but they had each other. Mr. Swanson worked in logging camps and rode the rails many times in search of work. He worked long hours, sometimes sixteen hours a day. The food was plain but there was lots of fresh air.

They later moved to a homestead north of Styal. Here they farmed with horses and did mixed farming. The children attended a one-room school, grades one to eight and Miss Smith was the teacher. She taught the children all sorts of acrobatics and had them put on a concert and gave prizes. One of the Swanson girls (Nancy) remembers winning a first



Mr. and Mrs. Swanson.

prize. The neighbors were friendly and helped each other in busy times, such as harvest.

Mr. Swanson liked to hunt and so supplied much of the meat for the family table in this way.

The school picnics, usually held on the first of July, leave fond memories. There were ball games, three legged races, egg races, etc. and you could buy a big ice cream cone for a nickel. Each family brought lunch and pooled it all together. It was a great way to meet your neighbor.

In 1933 a bush fire raging out of control, destroyed all the hay. Mr. Swanson sold his cattle and with the money built a house in Stony Plain where he moved the family.

He was handy at building and built barns for some farmers in that area. He also worked there during the harvest and threshing time. From there they moved to Campbell's corner near Entwistle. Times were hard and sometimes people came to the door offering to split wood or help in other ways in exchange for something to eat.

Later they moved to Entwistle. They were close to a school and quite comfortable with only one cow to milk. This cow liked blueberry pie. One day one of the daughters made a blueberry pie and by mistake put salt in it instead of sugar, so they fed it to the cow and she ate it all.



Mr. and Mrs. Swanson and family on his 80th birthday.

In 1941 Mr. Swanson bought some land at Duffield, Alberta and moved the family there. Again farming with horses, they shipped cream and raised some pigs. A wood heater was used to heat the house and a wood burning range was used for cooking. Water was a problem. They spent much time and money to have a well drilled without success - so for a number of years water had to be hauled from a neighbor.

After the family were all grown up, Mr. and Mrs. Swanson sold the farm and moved to Wildwood in 1963 where they still reside. They keep quite active with Mr. Swanson doing yard work and gardening and Mrs. Swanson preserving vegetables from the garden for winter.

They have five daughters and two sons. Emily (husband Jay Nixon deceased) has two sons and two daughters. Nancy (Mrs. Carroll Nixon) of Airdrie has one son and two daughters. Lena (Mrs. Edward Trautman) of Edmonton has three daughters. Hilda (Mrs. Leonard Williams) of Carstairs has three sons and three daughters. Lois (Mrs. Erven Fester) of Calgary has one daughter and two sons. Carl Swanson and his wife Adella of Barrhead have two daughters and one son. Derek Swanson and wife Esther of Prince George

have four daughters. Also there are twenty-six grandchildren and twenty-nine great grandchildren.

Mrs. Ustina Shokal

by U. Shokol

We, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Shokal came to Canada in June of 1930 during the depression with two hundred and fifty dollars to start a new life. We had planned to stay with my friend in Sangudo, but she did not know we were coming to Canada.

We arrived in Sangudo and the conductor placed all our luggage and belongings outside in the rain. I could not tell if there was any station. I stood there feeling lost, holding my son Walter, who was about a year old, in the rain for half an hour while my husband went into town. He found a store and asked where Joseph Zadara lived (my husband and I could not speak any English). They didn't know where he lived because he had just taken a homestead in May and no one knew where it was located. Valna Kutchavich was expecting her son from Poland, and by mistake the storekeeper thought that we were her son's family. He was very excited as he drove us in his car to the Kutchavich homestead. As we could not speak English and explain to him our need we proceeded to the Kutchavich's. On arriving at the Kutchavich's we were happy and relieved to find out that the Zadara homestead was only half a mile away and we went there.

My son Walter became very ill with pneumonia, because we stood in the rain and he got a chill. We took our son to the doctor in Mayerthorpe and had to stay over night in the hotel there. The doctor gave me some medicine and told me my son was very ill. I was very worried - my son didn't cry. It was as if he were dead. The doctor said if he cried during the night he would live and if he didn't cry he would die. I prayed all night and my son cried during the night and I was grateful God had answered my prayers. It was very hard on us to have to pay for medicine and doctors as we had very little money.

I stayed in Sangudo and my husband found a homestead twenty miles north of Rochfort for ten dollars. When I saw the homestead it was nothing but bush. I couldn't even see the sun it was so dense. It had no water. We had only a little slough and that was our drinking water and it was black.

My husband built a small one room house with one two foot square window. Our bed was made of four posts pounded into a dirt floor with tree branches serving as our box spring mattress and straw as a mattress.

My husband built a wagon out of wooden wheels covered with tin and planks on top to sit on. It was drawn by our one horse. In Rochfort people stopped and took a picture of us when we stopped at the store to buy two plates for one dollar. The strange looking wagon my husband had built attracted curious onlookers.

We had no road into the homestead and we had to hike in a half mile with all our belongings. After we settled in we bought two chickens for one dollar and a cow for seventy dollars. In the winter the Rochfort committee built a road but my husband had to help and for his help he received some relief money.

During the harvest that year my husband left me all alone to cope with all the chores as he went to search for work. Before he left he bought me some flour, lard and yeast. For coffee I would burn old bread and place it in hot water. He also bought some chopped wheat from the neighbour and I would use the finer ground wheat for bread and the coarse ground wheat for porridge. He also blazed a trail for me in case my son got sick or if I needed help I could follow the trail out. One night as I was in my bed there was a strange rubbing against the house; it shook the house and I became frightened. I looked carefully and discovered it was a moose scratching itself.

My husband rode and slept in freight cars and any where he could while looking for work. He returned empty handed, no money and without find-

ing work. During the depression there was no employment and if there was no one could pay.

We stayed on this homestead for about two years and our friends told us that there was better land in Evansburg. As my husband already had a homestead in his name I had to take it in my name. The homestead was ten miles north west of Evansburg. We built a two room log cabin and used mud to fill the holes. The floor was made of slats and the roof was covered with wooden shingles. A farmer gave us an old bed and my husband built a table and four chairs.

We would cut firewood and take it to Evansburg and the store would give us groceries in return. We also cut timber for shoring for mining in Evansburg. My husband would place one hundred timbers at a time on his sleigh in the winter and he would get three dollars per hundred. I don't recall how many timbers we cut, it was so many.

For water we had a creek that only ran in the spring so my husband made a dugout and the creek would drain into it, but in the winter we had no water, so I would take the horse and cow a half a mile to a slough and they would drink there. I had to melt snow on the stove for our drinking water and would use a rag for a sieve. There was an overabundance of rabbits. I would kill the rabbits for food by hitting them with a pitch fork. They were tasty. We travelled to Chip Lake at one o'clock in the morning to catch fish for food.

Later we bought a small sawmill, and after school my son Walter who was fourteen years old would operate the sawmill and cut various sizes of lumber. My daughter Nina who was twelve years old operated a canthook to roll the logs for the sawmill. At that time one thousand feet of spruce lumber was worth fifteen dollars. After this life became a little easier.

We sold the farm and sawmill and moved to Edmonton in 1949. I now have a rooming house, and my life is good, but very short as I am now seventy-three years old. I have eleven children today and all

are in good health and living well. We worked very hard in those days and I have both good and bad memories of our arrival in Canada.

The Mark Family

by Sydney Mark

Mr. and Mrs. Mark were both born in Parkhill, Ontario. They came west in 1906, spending one summer in Battleford, Saskatchewan. In November, they left with a team and sleigh for their homestead, which was eighty miles away. Their son William Henry (Bill) was two years old.

They came to a stopping place for the night. The lady of the house could not speak a word of English. Bill cried all night "Home-Mama-home". In the morning the lady could say "Home-Mama-home".

They started out in the morning, got lost and had to back-track to the stopping place. They started out again, through deep snow, finally reaching Luseland, Saskatchewan and the homestead. The winter of 1906-1907 was a very hard winter. The snow remained behind the buildings until May.

The Mark family had four more children. Lawrence was born in 1910. Lena was born in 1915. She died in 1919 from the flu. Aileen was born in 1919 and Sydney in 1922.

The years were hard with poor crops, hail, frost and drought. The only good year was 1915. Bill came to Styal in 1929. He homesteaded on NE 32-54-8-5, now owned by Stanley Gongowicz.

In 1930 the rest of the family moved to Styal to SW 27-54-8-5 in the Holly Springs District. Mr. Mark brought four horses, five cows, chickens, ducks and personal belongings on the freight train. The family came by car.

When the freight arrived at Styal, there was no loading dock. Mr. Palmer who lived close by, pulled in ties with his horse, Red, to make a ramp to unload the stock.



Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Mark.

Mrs. Mark let her ducks out in the water. Mr. Palmer, who had lived on the Prairie said, "Looks like those ducks never saw water before". Mrs. Mark replied, "Looks like you never saw ducks before". The Mark and Palmer families became close friends.

Around 1936, a young neighbour boy came to the Mark's place to say his mother was having a baby. Mr. Mark walked five miles to the lumber camp to get the father. It was forty below zero. Mrs. Mark walked to the home and delivered the baby. When the father got home everything was finished. They named the baby Aileen. Money was scarce in those days, so the mother gave yarn she had made from wool to Mrs. Mark. It really wore well. She also made sauerkraut which the Mark family enjoyed. She always had a half-gallon sealer for the Mark family.

In the early days when anyone went to town on horseback he would bring along the mail for everybody. Sometimes there was a gunny sack full. This was especially true if you included Eccles camp. When they took a wagon or sleigh and team, they brought groceries for everyone along the line.



Sydney Mark on binder, Mr. Taggart on tractor - 1950.

Mr. and Mrs. Prizeman lived about half-way to Styal. When it was cold Mrs. Prizeman always had a cup of hot cocoa ready for anyone who stopped to visit. She liked to hear all the news.

Joe Larwell, Aileen's husband, did not like cocoa, but he was always ready for Mrs. Prizeman's cocoa.

Mr. Mark passed away in 1958, Mrs. Mark in 1975.

Bill married and farmed near Rochfort Bridge. He passed away September, 1981.

Lawrence, married, with two children is now living in Edmonton. Aileen, married, with four children lives in Grand Forks, B.C. , Sydney, married, with five children lives on the home farm.



(L-R) Aileen Mark, Newt Gammond, Annabell Taylor, Charlie Taylor, Harry Watson Jr., Victor Taylor and Edith Watson.

Joe Kamitis

by Sydney Mark

Joe Kamitis, known as "Big Joe", was born in Lithuania. He came to Canada in the 1920's and worked around Luseland, Saskatchewan.

In 1929, he came to Styal, Alberta with Bill Mark and homesteaded the NW 27-54-8-W5.

Joe was big and strong. If the horses could not pull the load, he could pull it himself.

He lived first in the old Sylvester house. Then he built a large new home of squared logs. During winter months there were many dances held there. When he sold his place it was torn down piece by piece and set up again on the Joe Stewart farm in Park Court.

Once the lumber dry piled on Feldberg's place caught fire. Mrs. Feldberg tied a wet rag around Joe's head. He dashed in between the lumber piles and cut off the fire. A million feet of lumber went up in smoke that day. If it had not been for Joe the second million would have burned.

Joe was a blacksmith in Evansburg for a few years. Then he bought a sawmill to saw lumber on his homestead. Later he sawed in the Swan Hills area.

He retired to the Senior Citizen's Home in Barrhead. He passed away at the age of seventy-two. His homestead is now owned by Sydney Mark.

Joe was a good neighbour and had a heart of gold.

Blake Tucker

by Blake Tucker

I was born in Edmonton in 1912. My father died when I was three years old.

Mother and I homesteaded in the Holly Springs area in the spring of 1930. Our homestead was six miles north and two miles west of Styal.

Our start on the homestead was a team of horses, a wagon, walking plow, a cross-cut saw, an axe and a grub hoe. I drove the team out from Edmonton, which was a two day trip.

We built a small log house. Our livelihood the first few years was mostly wild rabbits, eggs, vegetables and meat we produced ourselves.

We lost our house by fire in the fall of 1931. Friends and neighbors arranged a house building bee and within a few days we had another log house to move in to.

Most of the entertainment was dances, box socials, and the annual school Christmas concert. A silver collection would be taken and given to the musicians, who were mostly local people. There were quite a few districts within a radius of six to ten miles of Holly Springs. Some of these were Em-pyrean, Knowledge View, Park Court, Gowanbrae, Evansburg, Styal and Junkins, where most of the events were held in one room schools. For most people, the only way to get around was by wagon, sleigh or horse back.

The events were well attended and people enjoyed themselves very much.

I worked in the bush for a couple of winters for ten dollars a month plus board, slooping and skidding logs. I also helped Bill Burnett drill water wells in the area. Bill was well known for his knowledge of sick livestock, and helped many people when they needed assistance with their sick animals.

We left the homestead in 1938 and moved back to Edmonton. I married Annie Greaves in 1942 in the Anglican Church at Evansburg. This church has since been demolished.

On my return to civilian life, after being in the Army, we lived in Edmonton where our two sons, Edward and Harry were born.

In 1951 we moved out to the quarter section I

had homesteaded where our daughter Beth was born in 1955. Our two boys attended Holly Springs and Evansburg public and high schools. Beth got her education in Evansburg.

We left the farm in 1972 and moved to Evansburg. I worked at the Creamery until age sixty-five. Annie worked in the office of the Department of Agriculture for fourteen years. We are now living in retirement in Evansburg.

The Harry Watson Family

by Sydney Mark

The Watson family moved onto NE28-54-8-5 in 1932. They lived in a tent until they built a log house. They cleared a few acres of land with an axe and grub hoe. In winter, Mr. Watson ran the steam engine for Mickey McCormick's sawmill.

They came with three children, Mildred, Wanda and Harry. Edith was born a year later on the homestead.

During the summer, Mrs. Watson and her children picked wild berries - always with a wary eye for bears.

Neighbours would get together and go in a wagon to look for raspberries on SW 35-54-8-5 where there was an old sawdust pile. The trail was very rough with many logs fallen across it. Mrs. Watson could cut these logs with a crosscut saw as well as any man.

They had a big dog named Pete. Hitched to a hand-sleigh, he would pull young Harry, Edith and Mrs. Watson to Styal.

They remember the picnics, concerts and dances held in the old Holly Springs School.

In 1936, they loaded their belongings on the hayrack to start for Peace River. The wagon was so heavily loaded it sank in the mud in the yard. Lawrence Mark hitched up more horses and helped them as far as Evansburg. Here they loaded their

Prokop and Paraska Kuharchuk

by Harry Kuharchuk and Annie McCracken



Mr. and Mrs. Harry Watson, Harry Jr., Edith, 1935 on the homestead.



The Watsons travelling to Peace River by covered wagon in 1936. Peter the dog standing on the road.

belongings onto a freight train. They went with their team and wagon, covered-wagon style. A year or so later, they returned to the homestead, only this time with a Model T Ford car.

In September, 1939, the family moved to Entwistle where Mr. Watson patrolled the CNR bridge for Department of National Defence.

Mr. Watson passed away in Edmonton October, 1975. Mrs. Watson still resides in Edmonton.

Harry Watson Jr. lives in Sardis, B.C.; Wanda at Chetwynd, B.C.; Edith passed away November, 1963. Mildred is currently living in Bellingham, Washington, U.S.A.

In the early months of 1930 the family of Prokop Kuharchuk, his wife Paraska (Pearl) and their two boys, John and Harry, arrived in the district. The boys, aged five and two, along with their mother, were left at the Gainford Hotel while Mr. Kuharchuk, along with several other prospective settlers, set out to pick out a homestead. He finally located one about fifteen miles northwest of Evansburg and returned for his family.

It was a frightening place to bring a woman with two children. It was a bleak wilderness with no house, no roads, dense bush and the nearest neighbor several miles away. It was a far cry from the crowded conditions they left in Poland where people were plentiful but land was scarce. A move to Canada was inspired first by the offer of cheap land and secondly by political conditions. Kobryn, Poland was a part of White Russia prior to World War I and Mr. Kuharchuk served with the Tsarist Russian army during that conflict. He was captured by the Germans and was a prisoner of war until the end of the war. When he returned home, he was saddened to discover that the area was ceded to Poland. The resulting pressures eventually contributed to his decision to leave the home where his family had lived for many generations.

The homestead he initially picked out was unsatisfactory and after spending a year there, he relocated to a homestead filed by Paraska Kuharchuk about nine miles northwest of Evansburg on the NW 23-54-8-W5. On this tract of land and some additional land acquisitions immediately to the north and northeast, Prokop Kuharchuk lived until his death in 1976. Here, also, three more children were born to the couple - Elizabeth, Helena, and Katie.

Neighbors and friends were not close at hand in that early period of no roads, no motor vehicles and a severe depression. However, friends did come together for celebrating special occasions, particularly in the winter. On many occasions, regardless of temperature, rocks would be heated up,

wrapped in blankets and placed on the floor of the family cutter. A horse would be hitched to the sleigh for a ride over bush trails that would be impassable except in winter. On one trip the horse was urged too quickly over the rough and meandering trail. Suddenly, the sled overturned and rocks, blankets, and passengers were strewn across the trail. After a considerable delay, the journey continued. A mop-up trip was necessary the next day to search for missing items in daylight. Fortunately, no one was injured.

Horses, though they were essential for travel and farm work, posed some severe problems - especially the character horses Mr. Kuharchuk seemed to have. Dick, a little buckskin, delighted in running off whenever an opportunity presented itself. He would escape with wagons, plows and discs. Extensive machinery repairs were often required after such escapades. Then there was Bess, the pony who was ridden into town for the mail, and who doubled as a work horse - but you had to catch her first!

Paraska Kuharchuk passed away in October of 1941. Mr. Kuharchuk later married Mania (Mary) Rakiewich who, in addition to helping to raise her stepchildren, also raised three of her own children - William, Alex and Anne.

John, after serving with the Canadian Armed Forces in World War II, has been in the lumber and construction business in Fort St. James, B.C. Harry is a school principal in Red Deer, Alberta.

The first daughter, Elizabeth Illerbrun, the mother of three children, is also living in Fort St. James, B.C. She is on the administrative staff of one of the large sawmills in the area.

Helen Patterson, or better known as Aileen in the Evansburg area, is the second daughter. She presently operates a successful secretarial business in Fort McMurray, Alberta and is the mother of one daughter.

Katie MacLeod, the youngest daughter of Prokop's first marriage, is living in St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A. with her husband, John and two daughters.

Prokop and his second wife, Mary, had three children, Bill, Alex and Annie. Bill presently owns the farm but resides in Edmonton working as a toolpusher on the oil rigs. Alex is a Division Manager also working in the oil patch at Nisku, Alberta. He and his wife April and three sons are presently living in Edmonton. The youngest daughter in the second marriage, Annie, is living in Leduc with her husband Bob and three sons.

When Prokop passed away in 1976 at the age of seventy-nine, his wife Mary moved from the farm into Evansburg where she presently resides.

The Lefevre Family

Mr. and Mrs. Napoleon (Paul) Lefevre and their four children, Eugene, Henry, Bella and George came to the Evansburg area in the early thirties from Edmonton. They stayed for a short time in the Gowanbrae District where Henry, Bella and George went to school.

On October 26, 1933 Paul filed on S.E. 22-54-8-W5 and the family moved to the Holly Springs District. The children then went to the Holly Springs School.

Eugene filed on N.E. 22-54-8-W5 on February 28, 1936.

Mr. and Mrs. Lefevre were very talented. They entertained at many local dances with their step-dancing.

The family moved back to Edmonton in the early forties.

Eugene served in the armed services. He married Elsie Couves on his return.

The Suprunovich Family

George and Olga Suprunovich came to Canada in 1935 with their five children, William, Irene, Alice, Lena and Annie. They bought the Arthur Wolff farm and also the original T. B. Morgan homestead. These they cleared and farmed with their son, William, until he was killed in an accident.

Shortly after his death, the father, mother and sisters moved away.



Mr. and Mrs. Suprunovich.

The Karp Semeniuk Family

by Natalka Semeniuk

Mr. Karp Semeniuk was a farmer as well as a tailor in his native land. Due to a shortage of land in Poland, and to the encouraging letters from George and Anne Suprunovich (Mrs. Natal Semeniuk's parents who were in Canada), Mr. and Mrs. Semeniuk, along with their two-year old son, William, decided to leave Poland. They boarded the ship, Ascania, and after about a four week journey across the Atlantic Ocean, they arrived in Halifax on April 4th, 1937.

They crossed Canada by train and settled on one quarter of land one-half mile from Mr. and Mrs. Suprunovich. The quarter of land cost seven hundred dollars, and since they were only allowed to bring over five hundred dollars, they owed two hundred dollars.

There were only twenty-five acres of cleared land and an old one room building which was infested with bed bugs. This became their living quarters.

There were no cows, no chickens, no horses, no machinery, not even a dog. When the second child was born in May of 1937, Mrs. Semeniuk would get milk from Gramma Suprunovich. If the milk supply ran out, the baby had to be fed warm water and sugar.

The first summer Mr. Semeniuk went out to work. He walked to Entwistle, hopped a freight train to Edmonton and ended up harvesting for farmers in the Legal area for fifty cents a day.

By the end of fall, there was enough money saved for the bare necessities, flour, salt, sugar. With his hard earned money in his pocket, Mr. Semeniuk arrived back at Styal. Since roads were poor and he wasn't used to the country, while walking home he got lost. It wasn't until he came to the Correction Line in the Park Court area that he realized he had walked too far.

In the winter time, Mr. Semeniuk worked in a logging camp five miles from home.

By saving every hard-earned penny, they managed to buy a few animals. Mr. Semeniuk cleared land for twenty-five days for one cow, and bought a team of horses, complete with harness, for one hundred dollars.

Mr. and Mrs. Semeniuk cleared about ten acres of land by hand a year. They broke the new sod using four horses, two borrowed from a neighbor, and a breaking plow. The wheat was planted by hand and harvested by scythe.

The times were hard and there were times when Mr. Semeniuk regretted coming to this wilderness. With great hope, hard work and determination Mr. Semeniuk did not give up. In 1945 he built a new house for his wife and four children, and the future started to look a bit brighter.

The oldest son, William, had to walk through mud and swamp two and one half miles to the Gowanbrae School. The following year he went to the Holly Springs School which was located two

and one half miles away and which was attended by all six children.

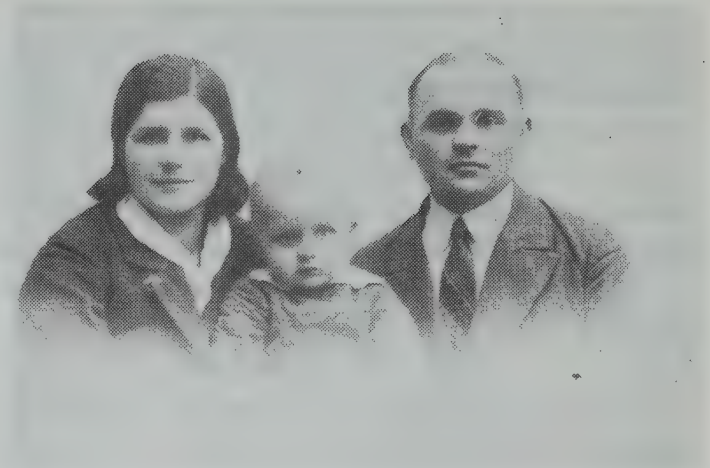
The Christmas Concert and the year-end picnic were the social high-lights of the year. In 1957 the children were bussed to the Evansburg School.

The monthly trips to town for supplies were made by horse and wagon. The first car was bought in 1943, but due to poor roads it could not be driven all the time.

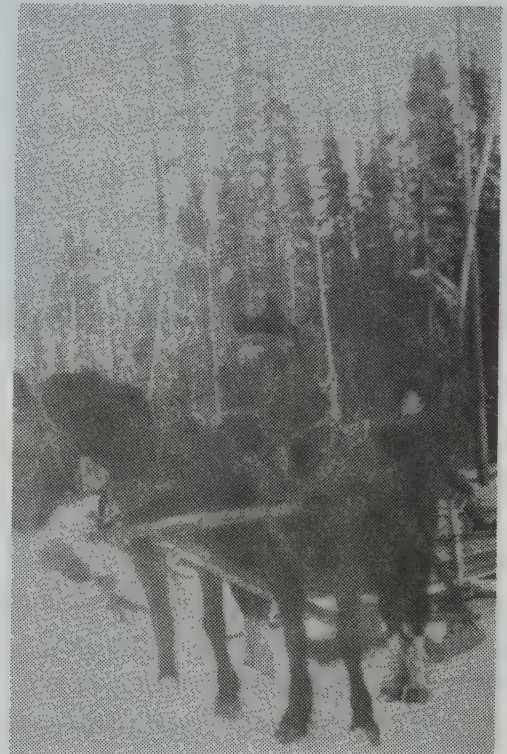
With all the problems and difficult times that were experienced, Mr. and Mrs. Semeniuk did not neglect their religious worship. The only, and the closest, church was a Catholic church located north of Wildwood. First they would travel by horse and buggy, then by tractor, and finally by car. It wasn't until later on that a Russian Orthodox Church was built in Wildwood, which they attended regularly.

In 1972, Mr. and Mrs. Semeniuk decided to retire. They left the land and the house which was built back in 1945 to their youngest son, George. Mr. Semeniuk had a nice home built in the town of Evansburg where both Karp and Natal presently reside.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Semeniuk, when they recall all the hardships, wonder how they and their family survived. But they have no regrets. They are very proud of their six children. The five youngest were sent to college and university.



Karp and Natal Semeniuk when they came to Canada with son William.



Karp Semeniuk logging.



Mr. and Mrs. Karp Semeniuk with William, Mary and Alex with their first car.

The Selwaczuk Family

Nick Selwaczuk came to Canada from Poland in 1937. He bought the Dawley quarter, which had been the setting for the Eccles' sawmill until then. He came with his wife and two grown daughters, Alice and Dinah. Later they sold the farm to George Tuttle and moved to Edmonton.

The Bura Family

Peter and Akulina Bura came to Canada in 1938 from Poland with their five children, Olga, Nancy, Jean, Nick and Mary. They were accompanied by Peter's parents, Omelian and Lucia Bura.

They moved to NE-10-54-8-W5. Later another daughter, Verna, was born. The children went to the Gowanbrae and Holly Springs Schools.

Omelian and Lucia Bura passed away in 1958.

Olga married Pete Kremenjuk and lives in B.C.

Nancy married Bruce Riviere and lives in Ontario.

Jean married Allan Ditner and lives near Wildwood.

Nick married Mary Stepaniuk who passed away in 1977. Nick lives on the home place.

Mary married Andy Paulduro and lives in Park Court.

Verna married Peter Wolodko.

Mr. and Mrs. Bura are retired and live in Evansburg.

The Ohnysty Family

by John and Alice Ohnysty

It was hard times, high taxes and a desire for a better place to live that prompted John and Titiana Ohnysty to leave their farm in Krasna, Ukraine,

and with their small son James, depart for Canada.

In the first week in July, 1938, they landed in Halifax and from there travelled by train to Wildwood, Alberta. From there they travelled by horse and wagon through bush land and muskeg, rain and mud, to John's brother Stanley's farm. Stanley Ohnysty had arrived ten years earlier.

Due to the law in 1938, you had to have lived in Canada five years and be a Canadian citizen to get a job on the railroad or other companies. He could not get a homestead so John was forced to look for work on harvest crews. In the fall of 1938 he walked along the railroad track to Edmonton. After a few hours of rest he proceeded to Chipman where farmers were hiring harvest crews. The men stooked from sunrise to sunset for one dollar a day. After stooking, they went on threshing crews. Weather permitting after harvest, the farmer still hired men for picking roots for two dollars an acre. During the winter of 38-39, John went to work in local lumbering camps for fifteen dollars a month. The years continued the same until 1940, when they bought and moved to the quarter where they presently live.

During the winter months they cleared by hand all the underbrush, small trees and willows and left the poplars for summer. These they chopped at the roots and felled them. After the trees were cleared, three horses and a walking plow broke the land. Approximately ten to twelve acres were cleared yearly. Along with clearing during the winter, long jack pine trees were brought in for log buildings that were built during spring and summer. Logs were hewed to fit, with mud, horse manure or chaff mixture as filler between the logs. Also during the summer, time was spent by all farmers in the community on road construction to better their roads. They were only allowed to work as much as the taxes on their land. During the drier parts of the year, the family went to town one or two times a month for supplies and mail.

It was not until 1949 that the first of the heavy equipment came to clear the bush at thirteen dollars an hour. In the early 50s breaking plows were



Titianna and John Ohnysty and Jim - 1938.



Fishing in Chip Lake - 1940-41. Mike Novicki, John Ohnysty, Mike Ohnysty, Jim Ohnysty (kneeling).

brought in to break the land at ten dollars an acre.

John and Titianna raised two sons, James and John. James now lives in Houston, Texas and is a Radiology consultant for American Medical International Inc. In 1958 he married Marie Laden from Hythe. They have three children, Chris, Renee and Teresa.

John resides on the home place and has taken over farming in his dad's footsteps. In 1974 he married Alice Platt from Olds. They have three children, Darren, Dean and Bryan.

Frank and Freda Babcock

Written by Daughter Audrey (Babcock) Kyfiuk

Mom, (Freda Saxer) and Dad came to live in the Holly Springs area on March fourteenth, 1954 from High Prairie, Alberta. At that time, my brother Frank was five and I was two. Dad bought a half-section from Frank Couves, and in later years, bought and homesteaded another quarter to make the farm into a three quarter section farm.

In the beginning, Dad homesteaded and worked with horses doing the farm work. He always was a welder and I will always remember Dad stopping his work to weld a neighbor's broken plow or piece of machinery. Dad worked as a welder on the Pembina River bridge down by the park, and on many other projects in and around Evansburg. I should mention that before Dad got into too much welding he did a lot of blacksmithing for the area and for himself.

Mom, over the years, was busy in the Women's Institute. She was always at home ready to serve us a welcome snack when we came home from school.

Many changes occurred over the years. Dad bought tractors to replace the horses, power came to the district, and later on, the telephone. New machinery was bought and Dad built new buildings which changed the appearance of the farm. Dad's welding business was doing well so he built his welding shop in which many rods are still being burned today.

My brother Frank went to grade one and two at the Holly Springs School, and the year I started school, we were bussed to the new school in Evansburg. Frank and I have many fond memories of our school years, riding on the school bus with Roy Hadley as driver. I remember times Dad came to meet the school bus with the team of horses because we had got stuck in the dreadfully muddy roads. I remember once Dad drove us all home with horses and wagon because Roy could not get the bus out. Dad always had a few teasing words to pass on to Roy about what a good job he did getting stuck.



Threshing on the Babcock farm -1954. Frank pitching bundles, father on machine, son Frank in granary window.



Getting ready to cut hay. Frank with son Frank and daughter, Audrey - 1959.



Frank and Freda Babcock 25th Wedding Anniversary - 1972.

All the while we were growing up my brother always helped Dad with field work. Mom helped with field work, worked in her huge garden, milked cows and tended outside chores. It was my duty to cook, wash dishes, and tend to the house. Believe me - I loved it compared to milking cows as so many of my school friends had to do. Somehow I still had to learn to drive the tractor to haul hay and stooks, but that was fun. I fondly remember getting stuck with Frank's 1962 Studebaker taking lunch to the field. Dad and Frank were not too pleased, though!!

My brother followed in Dad's footsteps and became a welder. He has a son David, eleven, and lives in Edmonton.

I became a secretary, married Pete Kyfiuk and later on became a mother. Pete and I have two sons: Darren, six, and Jeremy, two. We live on an acreage near Drayton Valley.

Mom and Dad still live on the farm. Dad keeps busy welding and giving many tractor rides to his three grandsons, and Mom still has her "huge" garden, tends her chickens and many other things on the farm.

Contents of Red Cross Parcel sent ot a Holly Springs family after their house burned down:

8 sheets
8 pillow slips
6 blankets
2 quilts
2 towels
6 pillows
2 night gowns
5 health kits

OLD TREE AT DUSK

by John Barton

Wind stiffens

in these flagging branches,
tagging
their valediction to the evening's
blue web of sky,

an endless dark

shift, a garment of darkening
dew falling
softly to earth.
I can't stand even this

gentle weight draping

even one shadow over my shoulder,
sensing as I must
the days shorten. The years
recede from my fingers,

an intricate braille

embroidered on the luminous
air we so seldom
breathe until it is too late.
What secrets do I feel

fall open

inside my clumsy lungs?
Something tingles like dawn.
An old tree can only
just sense the slow pulse

of sap draining

to its roots one last time.
Proud to the tip of each needle
an old tree raises the night
wind to its uppermost branches,

its very last ensign.

John Barton

Poem by John Barton

Hard Times Coffee

"Then we have our Bennett drinks. When relief (?) coffee got so poor and expensive (expensive at these times), an excellent beverage was made by browning wheat or barley in the oven till very very brown (a little molasses helps if you have it). Grind in your coffee mill and lo! Bennett coffee. (Note) This is twice as popular since the tax. Does anyone know a good recipe for Bennett tea? We haven't raspberry leaves to use like the Boston tea party people, but Bennett coffee is good and nourishing three times a day and the longer it boils the better it is and it doesn't hurt it or you to reheat it . . ."

Hard times Coffee.



Holly Springs - 1940.



Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Mark, Lawrence, Sydney and Aileen Mark.

Not To Be Forgotten

The following is a list of former residents for whom, for various reasons, we have been unable to obtain a family history. Some may have been missed and for this we apologize.

The Committee

Mr. and Mrs. Barnett

Mr. and Mrs. Barnett and family lived on the Tuttle Homestead SE-21-54-8-W5 in the early thirties.

Reed Chapman

Reed Chapman homesteaded SW 32-54-8-W5 on March 20, 1929.

Jim Dair

Jim Dair bought SW 10-54-8-W5 in the early thirties.

Froment Family

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ruben Froment filed on N.W. 20-54-8-W5 on September 22, 1928. Their adopted son, Gordon, went to the Holly Springs School. They moved back to Edmonton in the forties. All are now deceased.

Mike Gonkowycz

Mike Gonkowycz and family homesteaded NW 32-54-8-W5 in 1933.

Stanley Gonkowycz

Stanley Gonkowycz homesteaded NE 31-54-8-W5 in 1931.

Lidstone Family

Mr. and Mrs. John Bodell Lidstone filed on N.W. 28-54-8-W5 on October 18, 1932. They lived there only a few years and then moved back to Edmonton. There was a marvelous blueberry patch on their quarter.

Bill Malanchuk

Bill Malanchuk and family homesteaded SW 31-54-8-W5 in 1929.

The Harry Miller Family

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Miller and baby son lived on S.E. 22-54-8-W5 in 1927. They lived there for a year or two. The old Indian trail from Lac Ste. Anne to Jasper House went through their place.

Stanley Ohnysty

Stanley Ohnysty homesteaded SE 31-54-8-W5 in 1929.

Peter Shookman

Peter Shookman homesteaded SE 23-54-8-W5 in 1929.

Stec Family

Mr. and Mrs. Ilko Stec and family filed on S.W. 28-54-8-W5 on July 26, 1934. They lived there for several years.

Frank Wadiak

Frank Wadiak and family homesteaded NE-30-54-8-W5 in 1930.

The Welsh Family

Charlie and Frances Welsh lived on their Soldier Settlement homestead, S.E. 15-54-8-W5 for many years. They had a family of seven children - Joyce, Ruby, Eileen, Edna, Maurice, Betty and John. Maurice died in the polio epidemic. The family later lived on S.W. 10-54-8-W5.



Picnic and Sports Day - Holly Springs, 1935.



Mr. Froment, Elsie Couves, Mrs. Couves, unknown, Mrs. Froment, Mr. Couves.



Holly Springs School Children - 1938.



Styal and Holly Springs Picnic kids sat in a row to be fed supper, Miss Suggett serving, 1928.



Couves and Feldberg Families - 1928.



W.I. Farewell Party for Hergotts - 1962.



Ted Stephens - Evansburg Parade.



Mr. and Mrs. Swanson on his 80th Birthday.



W. I. Conference at Holly Springs.



Ted Stephens with dog, Rosie in 1931.



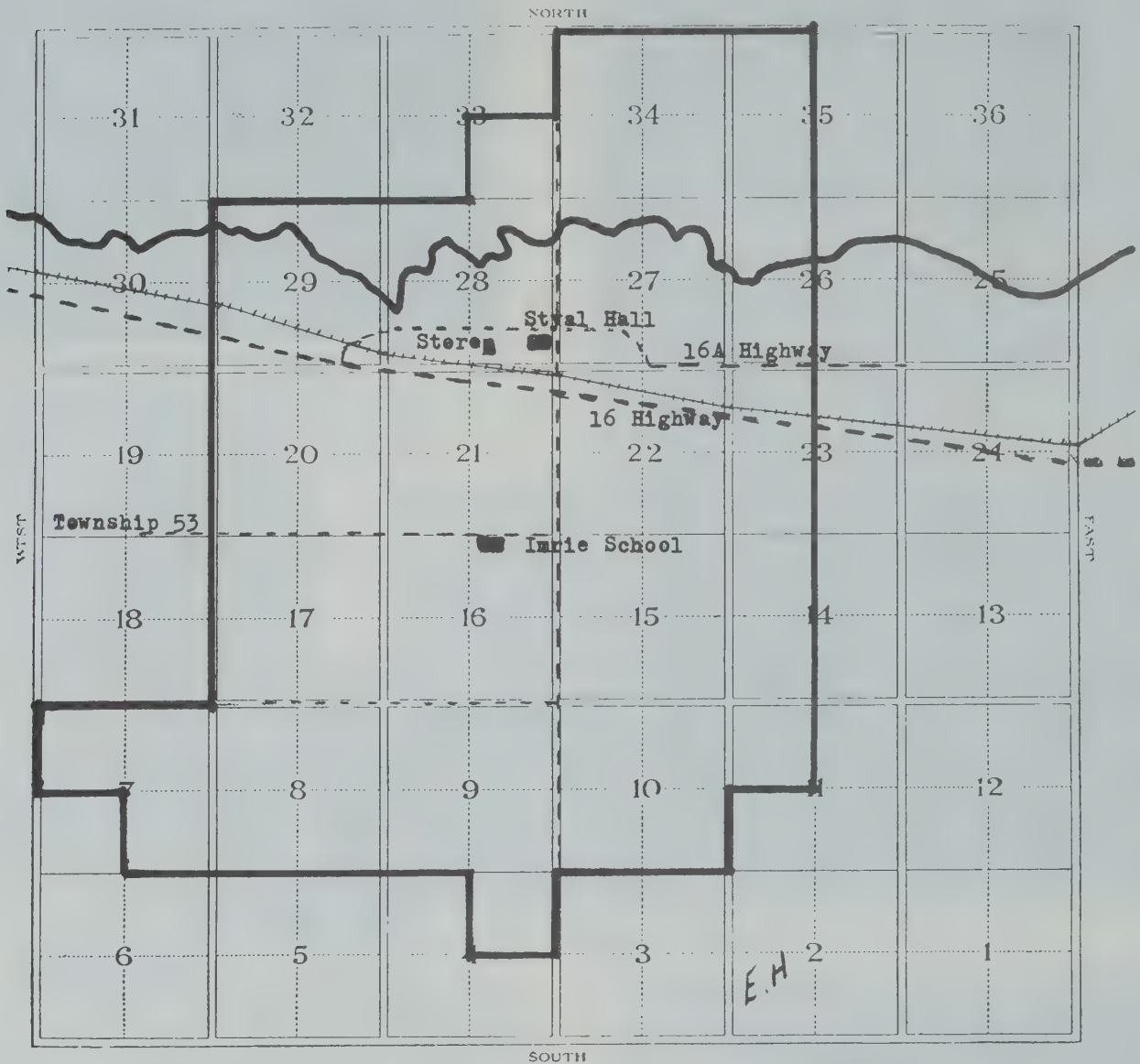
4—H Beef Club Achievement Day - 1962.



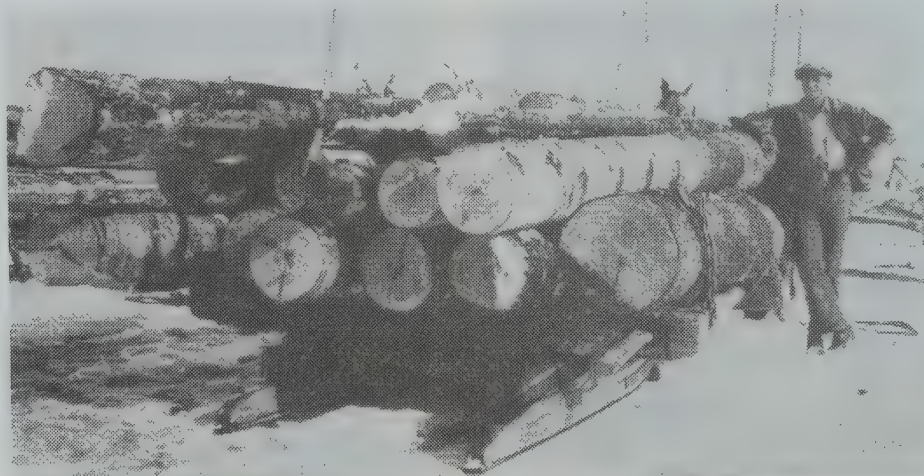
Steamer at McCormick's Camp - Harry Watson, Unknown, Frank Schroder.

IMRIE (Styal)

TOWNSHIP 53 RANGE 8 WEST OF 5TH MERIDIAN



Map of Imrie- Styal District



Hauling Logs for the sawmill - 1930's



Voting Day at Imrie School - 1935

Standing on wagon: (L—R) Hite Hadley, Bill Brennenstuhl,
Front row: (L—R) Mrs. Taggart, Mrs. Stepaniuk and baby
Irene, Mrs. Bob (Granny) Hadley, Mrs. Ladouceur, Mrs.
Heim with sons Alfred and Helmut, Mrs. Corbett, Aurora
Guignon, Lavada Neighbor, Mrs. Palmer, Lorne Palmer, Mrs.
Brooks, Mr. Heim.

Imrie (Styal) District

by Edna Hadley

Mrs. Emma J. Hadley is one of the few oldtimers residing in the Imrie District and has supplied the greater part of the information for this history.

Records from the Land Titles Office show that quarters in the Imrie District were filed on as early as 1906. In April of that year E. J. Read and Albert Duzan filed on quarters N.W. 30 and S.E. 30; followed by Fred Leblanc filing on the S.E. 36 in June of the same year. These homesteads were all in Township 53, Range 8, West of the 5th Meridian.

In 1907, 1908 and 1909 a total of forty some men filed on homesteads in the areas of Sections 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 28, and 32, all in Township 53, Range 8, West of the 5th M. It would appear that these men were working on and following the construction of the railway, as the quarter sections were re-filed on within a few years.

In 1913 a group of immigrants arrived from Europe and filed on homesteads in the Imrie area. Among these were Karl Millers, Franz Herzogs, Adolph Zeiglers, R. Schickley, Benesch, Biswangers and Blanks. More settlers came between 1913 and 1916; John Secoy in 1913, Henry Schickley in 1914, Given Ladouceur in 1915, Robert, Chesel and Thos. H. Hadley in 1916. These homesteaders became permanent settlers eking out a living in this harsh land and helping to develop the country.

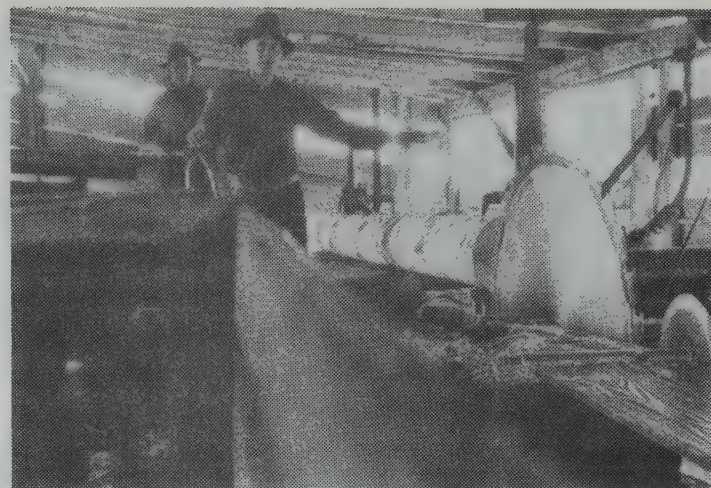
In 1918 R.S. Hadley opened and operated a General Store and Post Office opposite to the Imrie Station. He carried merchandise for the settlers' needs, and he would accept farm produce in trade. At this time the Foley Trail was the settlers' only access to other communities, Wildwood or Entwistle. It wound through swamp and muskeg, always seeking the higher ground to avoid these hazards. Travel was chiefly by horseback or with team and wagon. Frequently men walked and packed supplies home on their backs.

The Grand Trunk Railway also serviced the area for shipments but not at any time was there a station master. The station was occupied at various times by the section foreman; the first one being Jim Minore and his wife Edith (Hadley) and their family, Thelma, Madeline, Roy and Edith. The station stop had been named Imrie, but due to confusion with shipments to Irma, Alberta, the name was changed to Styal. Mrs. Emma J. Hadley recalls the changing of the sign in 1920.

Prior to 1920, the first school opened in a building across the road from the store. In 1925 the Imrie School was built one mile south and one-half mile west of the Styal Store. At this time the area was well populated with a family on practically every quarter section. Fifty-two students registered and attended school in the first year of operation. There were no roads. The students walked through the bush on trails and often mud holes would be covered with slabs and sawdust.

At this time, the land was well timbered and many sawmills operated, giving employment to the homesteaders. Some sawmill operators were Bob Hadley, Lorne Palmer and Doug Profitt, Hoople, Mickleberry, Tindalls, Schleker and Eccles. Many small sawmills were operated by a homesteader for his own use. Another source of revenue for a few homesteaders was 'a still on the hill'. A beer bottle full of strawberry flavored moonshine would bring one dollar. It gave courage to many a homesteader and helped him to carry on. Wild game abounded, so meat was never scarce, neither winter nor summer months. Wild fruit grew in abundance, raspberries and blueberries and cranberries in the muskegs. These were picked and canned by the gallons.

For many years the Imrie School was the centre of community activity. Christmas Concerts, picnics, dances and whist drives were held. The young people had a good ball team, and had challenge games with Reno or Wildwood. Transportation to a ball game was usually on foot. The 'sawdust pile' diamond on Palmer's corner was the ball practice site, and was busy nearly every summer evening. Log piles were used as bleachers for the spectators.



Bill Hoople's Saw mill 1925 or 1926. Nathan Mitchell and Art Williams (front).



Styal ball team in 1930's
(Seated) Carl Miller, George Court, Earl Brooks, Jack Corbett, Jim Matheson, (Front) Norbert Ladouceur, Roy Hadley Floyd Hadley.

In the early 1930s a basketball club was formed and afforded much entertainment. The outdoor court was opposite to the Styal Store and the young people gathered in the evenings to play. One enthusiastic player had been an avid soccer player in England. In the excitement of the game, he would forget the basketball rules and resort to soccer play, a 'hard shoulder' to the opponent and kick the ball out of the court.

Medical facilities were nil. There was a resident mine doctor in Evansburg who would attend in an emergency if the home-steader 'went and brought him'. In maternity cases, the baby frequently arrived before the doctor. Mrs. Alfred Wright usually assisted the mother.

In 1936 the Styal Hall Society was formed and a



Mr. Weaver on platform of Styal station seated on one hundred pound sugar sack.



Bridge washed out on Lobstick River near Streets.

community hall opened in 1937. Dances here were very popular for many years. The district was fortunate in having the musical Matheson family, Helen and Arthur and son Jim and daughter Jean. The Mathesons played for many informal gatherings. Elections, whist drives, picnics and Christmas programs were now held in the Styal hall.

During the war years of 1939 to 1945 many of the young people left the area. As time passed and roads improved, people went elsewhere for entertainment. Styal Hall was sold to Joe Matwie in 1975. He dismantled it and moved it to his farm.

Imrie School closed in 1953 and the students were bussed to Evansburg.



Tamarack pole swing built by Carl Miller Sr., in 1920, with Carl Miller, Edith Minore, Frances Miller.



Original house built by Herman Weaver, homesteader in Styal area in 1907. This was later the Carlstrom family home.



Styal Store, 1954.

History of Styal Store

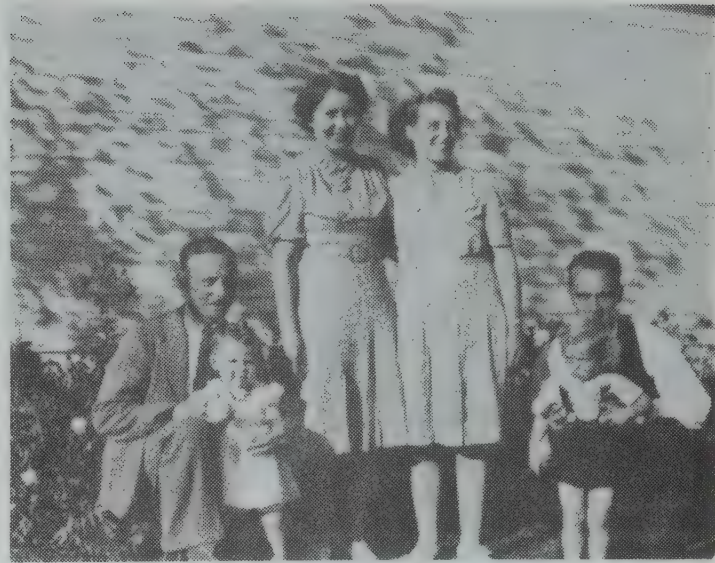
by Edna Hadley

Rufus Hadley and his wife Margaret came west from Haliburton County, Ontario in 1905. They were commonly referred to as R. S. and Maggie. They homesteaded a quarter of land in what is now known as the Smithfield District. R. S. and two other men cut down trees and with a crosscut saw and broad axe, squared the logs and built a house and barn. These buildings, with additions, still stand today.

R. S. and Maggie had one daughter, Clara, born to them. They lived on this farm until 1918, when they sold it and moved west to the Styal District. Here he homesteaded one quarter and acquired two more and developed a sheep ranch. R. S. Hadley built a general store and carried all the needs of the homesteaders in the area; groceries, hardware, barbed-wire, feed supplements, building supplies, and whatever else was needed. Maggie Hadley was the Post Mistress for many years. Styal station was a flag stop for the trains which travelled about three times a week, thus making Styal Store a meeting centre on mail days. Farmers came to ship their cream and eggs, and pick up the empty cans and egg crates, as well as the mail and groceries.

Rufus Hadley passed away in 1933 and was buried in the Smithfield Cemetery. Maggie and Clara carried on for a short time. Then Glen and Louise Clark took over the store management. In 1940, Maggie and Clara returned to Styal. In the meantime, Clara had married Eric Savage, so the store became 'Hadley & Savage'. Clara and Eric had two children born to them, Dora Anne in about 1942, and Bruce in 1947.

In 1952, Hadley and Savage held an auction sale and returned to Ontario. The Styal Store was sold to Horace Collingridge of Duffield. Subsequent owners were Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Hergott, Mr. and Mrs. De Mers, and Mr. and Mrs. Nadon. The store was finally closed in 1957. With the phasing out of the Post Office, people went elsewhere for their mail and their groceries. Wm. Roberts purchased the quarter north of the highway. Burton Brooks



Eric, Clara and Dora Savage, Margaret, Max and David Hertzog.



Feeding time with Mrs. Maggie Hadley at right.

purchased the one-half section with the buildings still intact. His residence is the R. S. Hadley original home in Styal.

Information gleaned from: cousin Mrs. Zetta Barry, Smithfield and from neighbors at the time.

Styal Hall

by Edna & Roy Hadley from excerpts of the minutes of the meetings

"In 1933 the Styal Society was formed by the residents of the community for the purpose of constructing a hall for the use and entertainment of the people of the area. H. J. Brooks was the first secretary and D.A. Matheson, the first President. By-laws to be in accordance with the Society Act of 1924.



Picnic at Styal Hall. Booth set up for the day.

“FEBRUARY 20 1933 - Agreed to build a lumber hall 30 feet by 50 feet.

“MARCH 8, 1933 - Logging committee approved and fees scheduled. Agreed T. H. Hadley do the cutting at 4¢ per log; Given Ladouceur do the skidding at 4¢ per log; and Lorne Palmer and R. Heim to do the hauling at 8¢ per log. Logs to be delivered to the S.W. corner of R. H. Hadley's quarter. Here the mill to be situated.

“MARCH 22, 1933 - Agreed to contact Guy Lamoureux to saw the logs; 17¢ per hour to be paid for labor on the mill, and 10¢ per hour to be paid for a team of horses. Lorne Palmer was appointed as foreman in charge of mill work. Agreed George Langley to deliver poplar logs to mill, enough for 3000 feet number 1 lumber, fee to be 15¢ per log.

“APRIL 5, 1933 - Agreed Directors to consist of President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 2 elected members. Membership to be \$1.00 per year.

“FEBRUARY 1, 1935 - Plans for the hall were submitted by D. A. Matheson and by A. Zeigler. Chosen one adopted and drawn to scale by D. A. Matheson. Motion passed ‘that all labor on hall be paid by debenture’ also ‘that there shall be a new hall committee elected every 3 months’. Thus giving responsibility to more members.

“NOVEMBER 9, 1935 - Meeting held in Imrie School with a large crowd in attendance. Glen Clark offered a site of 1 acre for the building, on

his property next to the highway - unanimously accepted.

“DECEMBER 23, 1935 - JANUARY 15, 1936 - Good progress on hall reported.

“JANUARY 23, 1936 - President Glen Clark reported that Jorgensen of Wildwood, agreed to plane the lumber for the hall and agreed not to expect payment until the hall was completed.

“OCTOBER 28, 1936 - Donation of \$22.26 received from Ladies Club.

“APRIL 1, 1937 - Agreed to pay bill presented by Doug Profitt the sum of \$27.84 for 1392 feet of 6x6 tamarac at \$20.00 per M. Paid.

“MAY 8, 1937 - Tenders for janitorship received. Agreed to pay Mrs. F. Taggart the sum of \$1.00 per performance and \$5.00 monthly to Roy Hadley for general care of the hall. Rent of the hall to be \$5.00.

“MAY 12, 1937 - THE BIG EVENT - The opening dance was held. Scandinavian Orchestra played for \$30.00. Admission .50¢ per person. Residents to have admission deducted from their labor accounts.

“MAY 13, 1937 - Doug Profitt offered planks for benches. Accepted with thanks. Piano purchased for \$85.00.

“JUNE 11, 1937 - Dad Ford's Orchestra played for the sum of \$35.00.

“JUNE 25, 1937 - Henry Dewald's Orchestra was hired for \$8.00. Admission dropped to men .35¢, Ladies .25¢ and children .15¢.

“JULY 9, 1937 - Durbin's Orchestra from Wildwood was hired for \$13.00. Admission again lowered to Ladies and Gents .25¢.

“SEPTEMBER 6, 1937 - Motion ‘Glen Clark to supply one load of wood at \$1.00 and he be paid at once!

"OCTOBER 8, 1937 - Cook stove purchased for \$15.00. Admission rates to be raised. Men .50¢, Ladies .25¢. Agreed 'load of wood to be \$2.00 for dry 24 inch cuts, and \$3.00 per cord. Two cords to be allotted to each individual. Requirements - 5 cords of sixteen inch cuts and 10 cords of 24 inch cuts.

"FEBRUARY 17, 1940 - Motion 'Coffee and hot dogs to be sold at dance'. Cup of coffee and hot dog at 10¢. Hot dog alone 5¢. Orchestra hired for dance 'Rods Rhythm Makers' for \$6.00.

"MARCH 27, 1940 - Agreed stairway to the balcony be built to accommodate the Swing Sisters Dance. Don Edmonds to be in charge of the job.

"APRIL 20, 1940 - Meeting held at the back of the hall sitting on wood pile, to finalize plans for anniversary dance. Swing Sisters to play for \$13.00. This was an all-girl orchestra, dressed in Scottish style, very popular and drew a large crowd, either to dance or just to look and listen.

JANUARY 13, 1941 - Whist drives began to be held in hall. Charge .10¢ per person."

Several of the local young people formed orchestras and supplied music for the many dances held. There was 'Rod's Rhythm Makers' with Rod and Dorothy Clark. The 'Black Jacks' with Frank Couves, Jimmy Matheson and Frizzle Hale. Mr. and Mrs. Matheson, Jim and Jean contributed much to the music of the area. Mrs. Matheson, Jim and Jean on the piano, and Mr. Matheson with the violin. It was the custom to have a floor manager at each dance. Popular ones were Joe Young or Alex MacDiarmid.

For approximately thirty years, the Styal Hall was the centre of entertainment used for dances, picnic sites, whist drives, political rallies, Local F.U.A. meetings, Christmas programs, movies and election centres. By the time electricity and natural gas came into the area, there was not enough interest shown in the hall to warrant installation. Roads were better and transportation better, so people started going further afield for entertainment. Orchestras with



Picnic at Styal Hall early 1940's
(Back Row) (L—R) Mrs. Langley, Roy Hadley Sr., Lorne Palmer, Peter Stepaniuk, Mrs. W. Brooks, Mrs. Carlstrom, Mr. Carlstrom, (Front Row) (L—R) Jim Reid, Mrs. Roy Hadley Sr., Given Ladouceur, Fred Lee, Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Bob Ladouceur, Mildred Hunter, Katie Mandriak, Mrs. Ladouceur.

amplifiers went elsewhere and so did the people.

The Styal Hall was maintained from 1957 to 1975 by a few of the long time members, Mrs. E. J. Hadley and a few faithful friends. It was used periodically for elections, and then a decision was made to sell.

On October 4, 1975, the Styal Hall, land and equipment was sold at public auction. Joe Matwie purchased the hall for the sum of five hundred dollars. He dismantled it and moved the lumber to his farm.

The bank balance of thirty-two hundred dollars was divided equally as follows:

Evansburg Cemetery Foundation - eight hundred dollars.

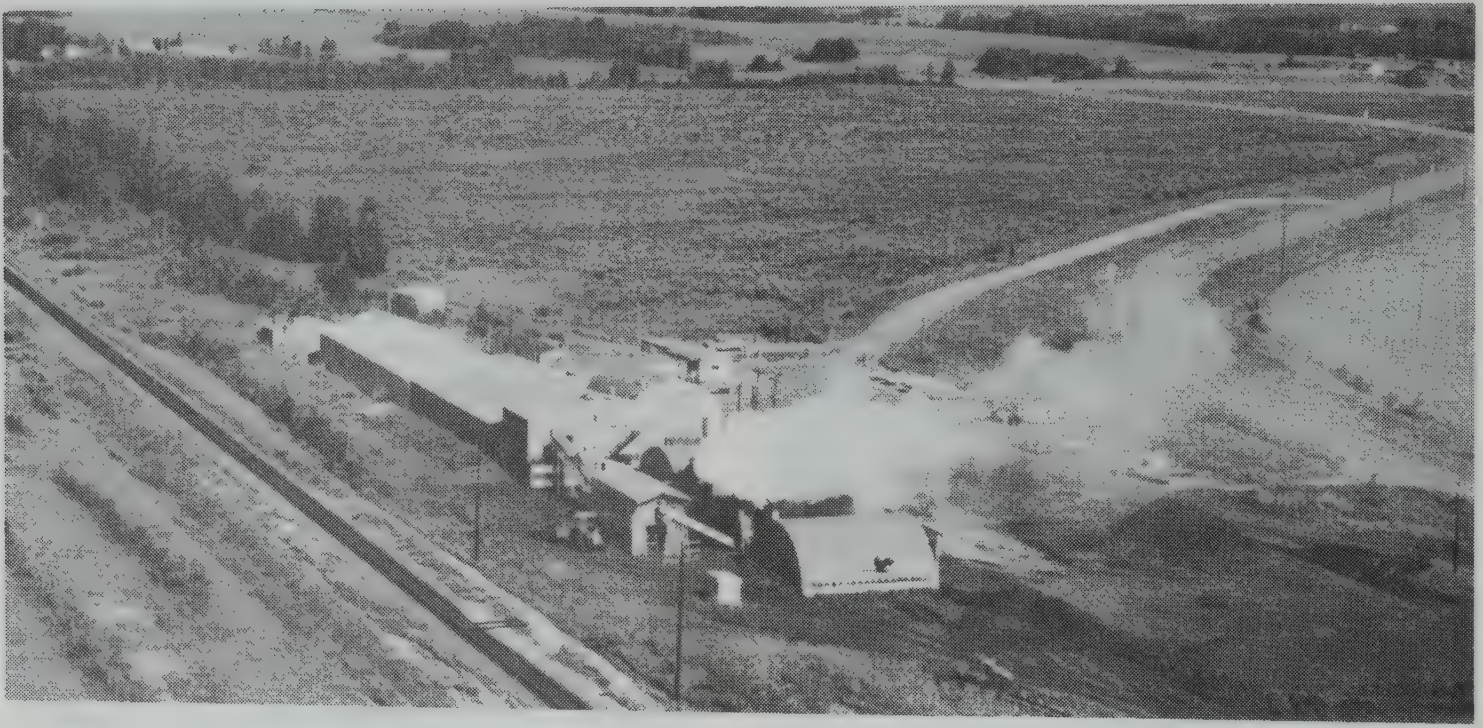
Evansburg Senior Citizens - eight hundred dollars.

Wildwood Cemetery Foundation - eight hundred dollars.

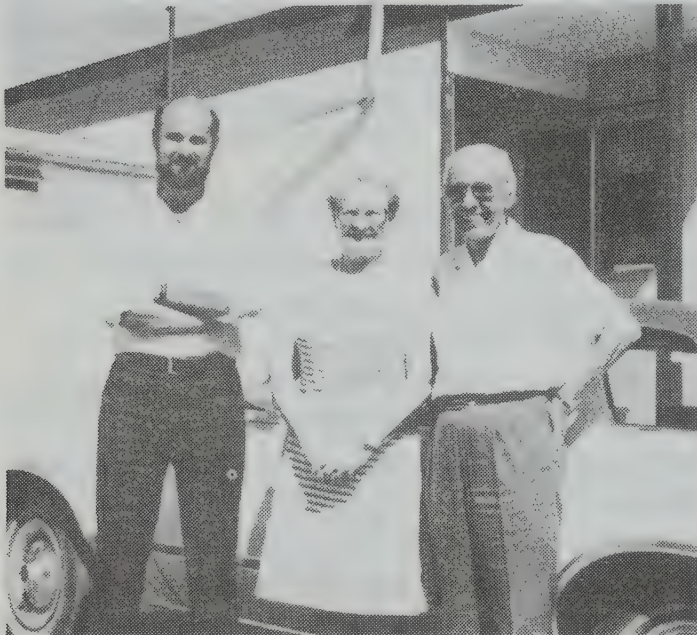
Wildwood Seniors Drop in Centre - eight hundred dollars.

This was a fitting distribution of proceeds for the men and women who had spent their time and labors in the Styal Community.

Membership Feb.	
1931	
Mr & Mrs Clark	50
Mrs Mrs Saggart	50
Mr & Mrs Philitt	50
Mrs Mrs O. Matheson	50
Mr & Mrs E. Cecles	50
Mr & Mrs Pilcher	50
Mr & Mrs N. Fargy	50
Mr & Mrs E. Carbett	50
Mr & Mrs R. H. Hadley	50
Mr. F. H. Hadley	50
Mr. R. S. Hadley	50
Mrs M. Bismarck	50
H. L. N. Beatty	50
E. McEneaney	50
Mr & Mrs Oigeman	50
Ed. Vellaw	50
Mr Roberts	50
T. H. & Mrs Edgar	50
T. J. Brooks	50
L. Clark	50
L. Reid	50
Mr & Mrs Kendrick	50
D. V. Edmunds	50
Mr & Mrs Palmer	50
J. Carbett	50
O. Bracke	50
T. H. Marks	50
T. C. Pauw	50
Mr & Mrs Watson	50
H. Brunsdahl	50
Thos. Hadley	50
Wm. McKinnon	50
James Miller	50
Ray Saggart	50
	950



Aerial view of Golden Moss Farms



(L—R) Tony Cable (Plant Manager) Irma Shelly (Managing director) Abe Shelly (President Golden Moss Farms)



Golden Moss Farms.

carried on in the hands of good management which we had in place, as well as good faithful workers, and myself as Managing Director.

Abe Shelly passed away in December, 1980 and the company carried on in the same fashion as described, until November, 1982. At this time an offer to buy the company came to me from Mr. Jack Bell, owner of Langley Peat Co., who operates a large, modern plant at Seba Beach. The name

stems from the parent company which for years operated out of Fort Langley, BC.

This offer was accepted as I felt that without my husband, I would prefer to divest myself of this large responsibility. The other shareholders agreed with my decision.

As of December 1, 1982, the sale to Langley Peat Co. took place and is now referred to as 'Langley

My husband and I enjoyed being a part of this developing industry in this Province and this community in particular. We have made many lasting friends and as of the present, I intend to stay and maintain my home here.

Imrie School

compiled from interviews by Edna Hadley

Imrie school district was formed in about 1917. Instrumental in this were R. S. Hadley and Edward Biswanger. R. S. Hadley held the position of chairman of the school board from 1917 until his passing in 1934; similarly Mr. Edward Biswanger held the position of secretary-treasurer from 1917 until his passing in 1935. Following this, R. H. Hadley became the chairman of the board and Mrs. Maimie Profitt the secretary-treasurer until 1938 when the Edson School District was formed.

School was first held in the Imrie District in 1918 in a log building opposite the Styal store. This building had served as a Post-Office up to the time of the building of the Styal store in 1918. In 1923 a frame school house was built one mile south and one-half mile west of the original school. Access to the school was over a muskeg trail covered with slabs and sawdust or just trails through the bush, also over wet swampy ground. In the building of the new school, Given Ladouceur and Mr. Muntz were the carpenters, assisted by the other men of the district. In 1935 the school was re-sided by R. H. Hadley.

Enrolment in the Imrie school was always high; at one time reaching a peak of fifty-two pupils making it difficult for the many teachers who came, taught and moved on. While in the district, many teachers boarded with Mrs. Biswanger. School operated as many country schools did. They closed during the cold months of January and February, opened March first and ran until December, with two weeks holidays in July. University students frequently came for the summer months to earn their tuition fees.



Imrie School- 1926.



Imrie School 1936 Students and Teacher

(Back Row) (L—R) Kathleen Taggart, Mary Lou Clarke, Marjorie Court (with head down), Jean Matheson, Ruth Brooks, Gertrude Zeigler, Emilia Turzer, Freida Phillips, Lorna Nelson, Hilda Nordtorp (Teacher) (Centre Row) (L—R) Elizabeth Muller, Vivian Brooks, Vivian Corbett, Laurea Taggart, Albert Corbett, Stanley Stepaniuk, Norbert Ladouceur, Donnie Edgar, Gibby Ladouceur, George Court, (Front Row) (L—R) Vernon Palmer, Roy Corbett, Nick Stepaniuk, Ethel Palmer, Berneice Hadley, Edith Ladouceur, Fred Zeigler, Mr. Mertz peeking around the corner.

Some of the many teachers who came and went are: R. J. L. Wright, Mr. Bryant, Miss Walker, Miss Sinclair, Miss Seabloom, Miss Hause, Mrs. Denihee, Miss Lindberg, Mr. Seabrass, Miss Lewis, Miss Anderson, Miss Maynard, Miss Nordtorp, Miss Howard, Miss Isel, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Hellekson, Shirley Hadley, Jenny Janeszewski, Helen Mazeppa, Sam Bitner, Mrs. Barby and a few Correspondence Supervisors during the last few years of school operation. For some years the School Board had the policy of hiring older teachers. Their belief was that the younger teachers would be too distracted by the young men of the district and thus not perform their duties as



Imrie School students about 1950

Back row (—R) Walter Zinchuk, Jerry Hadley, Edna Stepaniuk, Roger Mandriak, Frankie Norkus, Evelyn Norkus, Second row (L—R) Annie Roberts, Greta Jendrick, Margaret Isel - Teacher, Annie Miko, Dyllis Jendrick, Front- David Herzog.



Imrie School students 1953 - the last class to attend Imrie (B.R) (L—R) Frank Norkus, Dyllis Jendrick, Walter Zinchuk, Evelyn Norkus, David Herzog, (Middle Row) (L—R) Annie Miko, Greta Jendrick, Evelyn Miko, (Front Row) (L—R) Judy Matwie, Gail Headon, Iris Mandriak, Viola Miko, Lorene Herzog, David Jendrick, Marion Norkus.



Jendrick Home made from Imrie School.

required. This policy was not always sound, as in the odd instance the hired teacher was too old to perform duties as required.

School picnics and Christmas concerts were the highlights for the students, parents and others in the district. Programs and dances were held in the school before the building of the Styal Hall. After this both were held in the hall. Eric Savage played the part of Santa Claus on nearly every occasion, and thrilled all the younger children.

In 1956 the Edson School Division closed the Imrie School and the students were transported by bus to Evansburg School. Mac Tuttle drove the first bus in the Imrie district. He was followed by Les Parry and George Tuttle.

In 1957 Louis Jendrick purchased the Imrie School building and moved it to his farm site where he converted it into a house.

The Tate Family

Mr. Wesley Tate of LeRoy, Minnesota, came to Alberta the fall of 1910 looking for a homestead. He filed on a quarter that a Mr. Schadelick was leaving. Mr. Wesley Tate sent for his wife Harriette and six month old son, Delbert and Mrs. Tate's mother, Mrs. Anna Vetter who was born in Stuttgart, Germany. They arrived in Edmonton the first of January with household goods, some horses and machinery. They left Edmonton and came west to Junkins which at the present time is Wildwood. They settled four miles east and one mile south on the Lobstick Road which was a mile south of the Foley Trail Stopping Place.

The buildings nestled in a beautiful spruce grove with a creek running near the log house and barn. The girls, Ruth, Myrtle, and Irene were born in the log house. The log house burned on February 14, 1922.

The Lobstick Road was made passable with slabs and sawdust hauled from Kemp, Fisher and Eccles sawmill. The road was later graded with horses on fresnoes and hand scrapers.

In the winter beef and pork were supplemented with wild rabbit, moose, and on one occasion, an elk which was a rarity in this area of the country. A lot of blueberries, saskatoons, cranberries, and black and red currants were preserved as jelly and jams for the winter months.

The land was cleared with axe, saw and grubhoe. The large stumps were removed with dynamite. The cultivated land was seeded with a cyclone seeder that you hung on your shoulder. It worked by turning a crank that spread the grain a certain distance as you walked back and forth across the field. Later on, a horse drawn seed drill was used.

A Catholic Priest, Father Louis, was the first contact people had with the church. He was a great help to the people of various religions. Later on people went to Junkins to Sunday School and on two different occasions, Sunday School was held in the new Styal School (Imrie).

Ruth and Delbert started to school at the ages of seven and nine, on August 25, 1919, in the first school, just north of the Styal Railway Station. Myrtle, Hazel and Irene started to school in the new school about two miles south of the first school. We made our own paths through the bush when we did not walk on the logging roads.

Mr. Wesley Tate served on the Styal School Board for a time. He believed in upgrading stock so four neighbors, who were milking and shipping cream - Mr. Blank, Mr. Herzog, Mr. K. Miller and Mr. Scharr - formed a club and with the help of the Government they received an Ayrshire bull.

In the winter, Mr. Wesley Tate worked in the sawmills as a sawyer, hauled logs, and cut logs and ties. Harriette Tate (his wife) was a school teacher, piano teacher, and a Sunday School teacher for a time in Junkins.

When Mrs. Anna Vetter passed away, a Mr. Karl Miller constructed her casket, finishing the inside and out with black sateen cloth. Anna Vetter was laid to rest in the first Junkins Cemetery which has been enlarged and fenced ready for future use. Mr.

and Mrs. Wesley Tate are also buried in the Wildwood cemetery, west of town.

Delbert Tate worked on road construction in southern Alberta, in British Columbia, and also on our Highway No. 16. He also was in the sawmill business for some time. When his father retired, Delbert took over the farming for a while. At the age of seventy two, Delbert is still hired as a sawyer by Mr. Joe Phillips of Wildwood.

Ruth and Irene Tate are both married with families and live in Vernon, British Columbia.

Carl and Marie Miller

(as remembered by Carl Miller)

In 1913, my parents Carl and Marie Miller and my sister Emelie left their home in Stonheim, Germany (a small town near Stuttgart), arriving at Imrie (now Styal) on April 29. The immigration authorities had shown them very convincing pictures of the bountiful fruit crops and great prairie farms with vast wheat fields - homesteading sounded so enticing. The journey was made in the company of several other families - Herzogs, Blanks, Zieglers. Henry Schickle and Mike Sclogg, all settling at Imrie and remaining neighbors and good friends.

These folks were not familiar with the terrain and soil conditions in Western Canada and gratefully accepted the one hundred and sixty acres of jack pine and swamp that was allotted to them. They never dreamed of the great hardships ahead trying to provide for their families. Our homestead was one quarter mile south of Highway 16, three miles east of Wildwood and five miles west of Evansburg, at the railway crossing on highway 16A.

The district was serviced by the Grand Trunk Railway. The main road link with Edmonton (and civilization) was the old Foley Trail, a narrow wagon trail through the thick bush with many miles of corduroy through the swampy areas.

Our first house was built of logs, cleared from the yard and garden area. My father, being very

handy with tools, made all the building materials (except glass for the windows) from the trees on the homestead. The logs were fastened together with wooden pegs. The floor was tamarac poles smoothed with an adze, the finished product differing greatly from the beautiful polished hardwood floors Mother had been used to in Germany. Mother and Emelie had boarded with neighbors while Dad built the house. When the time arrived to move home, Mother was very excited. She suggested that Dad should take her to a furniture store so she could buy beds and other furnishings. The nearest stores were eighty miles away in Edmonton and there was no transportation, so Dad quietly went off and busied himself cutting tamarac poles and built beds, tables and chairs. Mother was not thrilled with the primitive furnishings, but with the beautiful feather quilts they had brought from Germany they were quite comfortable. Dad built cupboards with the lumber salvaged from the packing crates in which the household goods had been shipped.

The mosquitoes and black flies were dreadful in the thick bush and through the swampy areas. Mother told stories about carrying smudge pails everywhere they went. They notched trees to make paths through the thick bush so they would not get lost when walking out for supplies or to visit neighbors.

The improvements on the homestead went very slowly, the land being heavily timbered and very swampy. Hay grew in abundance and was cut mostly by scythe, and hand raked with large wooden rakes which Dad had made. A large number of cattle were kept and cream, butter, and beef were sold locally.

Mother picked wild berries and it was always a great adventure going for the swamp cranberries. One had to jump from fallen logs to stumps, because one could step into a bog hole and disappear (at least that was the belief).

During the flu epidemic in late 1918, Mother was very ill and it was only her strong constitution that



Marie and Carl Miller.

brought her through. Dad fared much better taking his jug of moonshine and going out in the hay meadow. He was preserved in alcohol and the flu bug could not touch him.

My sister, Emelie, went to school in Junkins (Wildwood). She remembers going over to the old Swanson and Anderson store (a tar paper building) during the lunch hour where many of the homesteaders gathered daily, their feet tied up with binder twine and gunny sacks for warmth. They all told stories around the old pot-bellied stove, this being their social life. One of the vivid memories of these story hours was the continual spitting on the stove. In later years a school was started at Imrie and Emelie attended classes there in an old log building which had housed the Post Office. The post office had been moved into the store across the street.

1920 had been an extremely cold winter and Mother said that there was still four feet of snow in late April. Feed was scarce because it had been such a long hard winter and many of the homesteaders lost their cattle from starvation. It was in April of this year that my sister Frances was born.

Two years later I (Carl) was born. Frances and I attended Imrie School. A new building was by this time located south of our homestead. We always walked cross-country as it was much closer than going around on the road, through the bush in the dark during the short winter days, and in water over our knee rubbers in the swamps in summer.



Frances, Emelie and Carl Miller, 1920.

In those early times when money was very scarce and there were no undertakers closer than Edmonton, Dad often built coffins for the deceased and helped lay them to rest.

Mother went out in all weather conditions and at any time to help neighbor ladies during the birth of their children.

One of my fondest memories of my childhood is of the winter fishing trips to Chip Lake. Mother packed lunch and Dad and I would start out with the team before dawn. When we arrived it was a tough job chopping through the ice, but we felt well rewarded as the catch was usually plentiful. The frozen sandwiches and thermos coffee seemed like such a treat at noon as I was always very hungry. At dusk Dad would pack up our fish and we would start the long drive home. I would usually curl up in the blankets in the bottom of the sleigh and go to sleep.

A large ice house was a necessity to keep the dairy products cool during the hot summer months. This building also housed the cream separator and the well. On one occasion the family was favored with a visit from a skunk under the floor. It was quite a challenge getting him out without disturbing him too much.

The poor roads in the early days were always a pain in the neck for Dad. He bought his first car in 1927 - a "1925 Overland", and it was parked, most of the time, in the garage. Dad hated driving the hills between Evansburg and Entwistle with the narrow river bridge. He always dreamed of a highway bridge across the Pembina, but he did not live to see the present structure.

My parents sold their farm in 1954 or 1955 and built a small home north of the tracks in Hansonville, where they retired. My Dad always said he wanted to be married for fifty years and he got his wish. He died on January 2, 1957, which was their fiftieth wedding anniversary. My Mother visited Emelie for a short time and then lived with Frances. Her health was failing so she moved to Edmonton and lived with my family and me. Mother died in March, 1959. My parents are both buried in the Wildwood Cemetery.

My Sister Emelie married Stan Ellis and they had eight children, four sons and four daughters, all are married and live in B.C. Emelie is a widow and lives in Prince George, B.C.



Carl and Frances Miller - early 1920's.

My sister Frances married Walter Scharr and they had four children. Caroline and her husband and three boys live at Millet, Alberta. Shirley and her husband and son and daughter live in Victoria, B.C., Doreen and her husband and three sons live in Golden, B.C., Walter (Junior) lives in Edmonton. Frances died in July, 1967 and was laid to rest in the Wildwood Cemetery.

I married Isa Aitken and we have five children. Carlowene and her husband Robert Prinsky and two sons live in New York. Jim and his wife Delores and two sons live in St. Albert. Peggy and her husband Jim Parker and three sons live in Edmonton. Glenn and his wife Chris live in Edmonton. Our youngest son, Carl, is single and still lives at home. With three sons of my own and seven grandsons the Miller family story should carry on for many more chapters.

The Ziegler Family

Adolf Fredrick Ziegler and his mother, Bertha Ziegler, came to Canada in 1913, from Kirckheim Wurttemberg, Germany. Prior to coming to Canada, Adolf worked in a machine factory.

He homesteaded in the Styal district, two miles south of Highway 16. The house was built of logs and part of it still stands today.

In 1923 he married Lydia Hoefer, who had come to Canada that same year.

As there was no land cleared and the bush was very heavy it was necessary to work out to make a living until some land could be made ready to crop. Adolf worked at different saw mills in the area and on the railroad. Later on he worked at the Evansburg Coal Mine.

Bertha Ziegler moved in to a small house in Evansburg in the late 1930s where on February 14, 1942, she passed away.

Adolf and Lydia had two children, Gertrude and Fred. The children attended Imrie school from

Grade I to Grade VIII.

Roads were very bad, especially from the half mile of corduroy just south of the Styal Store.

As the years went by, land was cleared and the herd of livestock increased.

Gertrude married Otto Miko and farmed nearby for many years. They have since retired to Edmonton. They have three daughters, Anne (Mrs. Alan Young), Evelyn (Mrs. Gary Krause), and Melanie.

Fred married Eileen Able (nee Welsh). They have four children, and three grandchildren.

Gary Able and his wife Viola (Miko) have two sons, Robert and Jerred.

Ricky Ziegler is employed at Hinton.

Cindy Ziegler is employed in Edmonton.

Lee and husband Andy Lloyd have one daughter. Andy is employed at Hinton.

Adolf and Lydia retired to Evansburg where he passed away March 13th, 1966 at the age of seventy-seven years. Lydia passed away March 24th, 1978 at the age of eighty-two. Both are buried in Evansburg Cemetery.

Fred Ziegler took over the farming operations and continues farming at present.

William and Martha Ziegler

William and Martha Ziegler arrived in Styal, Alberta, in the year of 1918. After homesteading in Styal for some years, they moved to Evansburg. William Ziegler was employed by North American Collieries until the mine closed in 1934. They then moved to Vancouver, B.C.

There are three daughters; Martha Wilson, Victoria, B.C. Hedwig Young, Parksville, B.C., and Helen Sandford, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mrs. Blair

by Helen Hunter Lavender

(based on discussions with my father)

Mrs. Blair had told us that she was a ten year old slave girl when the American slaves were freed in 1865. She had been bound out to a German landowner and Mr. Blair to a Scotsman. Sometime afterward, they were married and moved to Alberta to homestead a quarter section of bush at Styal. My father cannot remember any Blair children although Mrs. Blair spoke of a young girl who was in the States, who may have been a daughter or a sister.

Mrs. Blair raised a few cattle and chickens and picked wild fruit. In the spring, we helped her pick wild strawberries in her hayfield. She raised a small garden and seemed healthy and contented. She was a good neighbor and often walked the half mile to our place for tea with my mother.

Mrs. Blair had two small houses on her place. She was living in the newer one when we arrived in Styal. Houses were heated by wood burning cook stoves and/or barrel heaters. One night to their horror my parents woke to Old Carlo's barking and saw that Mrs. Blair's house was on fire. They awakened me with instructions to watch out the window (by standing on the foot of their bed) and to stay awake to care for our place until they returned. Hours later, they returned with a frightened, tearful Mrs. Blair and word that they could not do anything to save the house or many of her possessions.

Afterwards, they and other neighbors repaired and refurnished her old house and she lived in it for some time. Sadly, it later burned down too and my parents could only rescue her and let the tinder-dry old building burn.

I think that Mrs. Blair went to live at Wildwood for her remaining years.

Franz Herzog

by Hilda Campbell

Franz Herzog was born in Schwartzwald (Black

Forest) Germany in 1888. He took army training and then worked in a brewery. Maria Bruggar was born in Lauterbach, Germany. At the age of fourteen, the passing of her mother left her with two children at home to look after. Before her marriage, she worked in a weaving factory.

With the political unrest in Germany, they decided to come to Canada. They boarded the Mayflower in 1913. The ocean crossing took five weeks, and many a seasick moment occurred.

On the ship, they met and made friends with other families leaving Germany. They came to Halifax, Nova Scotia, and then came west to Junkins (Wildwood), where they took up a homestead. Here they built their first home from logs hewed flat on two sides. The cracks were filled with moss. For hewing the logs, they used a large bladed axe called a broad-axe.

Franz's first job was on the railroad section crew. Not knowing how to speak any English, the boys got quite a bang out of teaching him. The first words he learned were:

I like coffee; I like tea; I like the girls; And the girls like me.

He finally learned how to say them, but didn't know what they meant.

Their closest neighbors were the Tates. Mr. Tate owned a team of oxen and sloop with which he hauled groceries for his neighbors and friends. The sloop was made from two logs cut out for runners, and poles for a platform. Being drawn by the two oxen, made it an all-day trip. When Mr. Tate took the Herzogs to the store, they had to point out what they wanted to buy. Much of their food was wild game and berries and any vegetables they could grow.

One day when they arrived home a grassfire had burned their home to the ground. They lost everything, but the biggest loss was their treasures they had brought with them from Germany. All their friends and neighbors pitched in and helped them build another home.



The Herzogs - (L—R) Max, Charlie, Maria, Franz, Hilda, and Frank in front.

Their first animal was a cow, which became a real pet. Having a small house, Maria did her washing outside in a large tub with a wash board. The tub sat on a stump. It being late one evening, she didn't empty it, but the cow decided to. Many tears were shed for fear the cow would die.

The Herzogs had a neighbor who got a hearty laugh out of frightening the women. Mr. Blair was a colored gentleman with snow-white hair and a beard. Riding his mule, he would come up and holler: "Have you seen my cows?" Their water was packed from the creek, and many times their pails were left behind due to the scare.

The Lobstick Station was the gathering place on weekends. The whole family went; they danced and sang and made their own entertainment with often some one playing an instrument.

They shipped their cream from the station. The train came at four o'clock in the morning, so they had to deliver at night.

In later years, the 1st of July was a great outing with the horse and wagon. The whole family went and an ice cream cone was only five cents so that was a real treat.

Churches didn't exist there. Mostly, there were Sunday school gatherings at someone's home. One priest, Father Louis, made his calls at the homes to christen and baptize the newborn babies regardless of race or religion.

In 1933, they got their Canadian Naturalization papers, so they could get the title to their homestead.

On this farm, four children were born: son, Carl (known as Charlie); daughter, Hilda (Mrs. Ivan Campbell); son, Max; son, Frank.

Franz passed away in his home on the farm May 26, 1956. Maria then sold the farm to Mr. & Mrs. Pete Theissen. She then moved to Wildwood to live with her son, Frank. After Frank got married, she decided to move back to the country. The family got together and moved a small two-room house onto the farm of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. & Mrs. Ivan Campbell. Here she lived until her passing on June 12, 1972. Franz and Maria Herzog are both laid to rest in the Wildwood Cemetery.

Max Herzog

Max Herzog, second son of Franz and Maria Herzog, was born at Junkins (Wildwood) September 13, 1920. He took his schooling at Imrie. On March 6, 1942, he married Margaret Headon. He enlisted in the service for World War II and spent some time training in British Columbia. Max was then sent to various places overseas.

After the war was over, Max and Margaret bought a quarter section of farm land south of Styal from Bill Hopkins. From here they ran a dairy operation, supplying milk to Wildwood, but the roads were poor and sometimes it was next to impossible to get the milk out. To supplement the farm income, Max worked for the C.N.R. and then for Northwestern Utilities, and later he drove a school bus. The family moved to the Village of Evansburg for about two years, and then back to the farm. While living in the Village, Margaret worked as a telephone operator for A.G.T.



Max, Margaret, and David Herzog moving to their farm - 1945.



Max and Margaret Herzog's children. (B.R.) David and Ken, (F.R.) Norma, Marlene, Marilyn and Lorreen.

Margaret died September 13, 1965 and Max died January 27, 1967. They are buried in the Wildwood Cemetery.

Their eldest son, David, his wife Hazel, and their sons Tim and Neil live and farm the original home farm.

Lorreen and her husband, David Stewart, and their three children, live at Vermilion.

Marilyn and her husband, James Nixon, live near Spruce Grove. Marilyn works as an executive secretary in Edmonton.

Marlene and her husband, Neal Hamblin, live in

Edmonton where she works as a property manageress.

Ken and his wife, Loretta, and two daughters live at Mayerthorpe where he is a mechanic.

Norma and her husband, Mark Ross, live in Edmonton where she works as a secretary at the General Hospital.

Given and Eva Ladouceur

by Isabella Thomsen

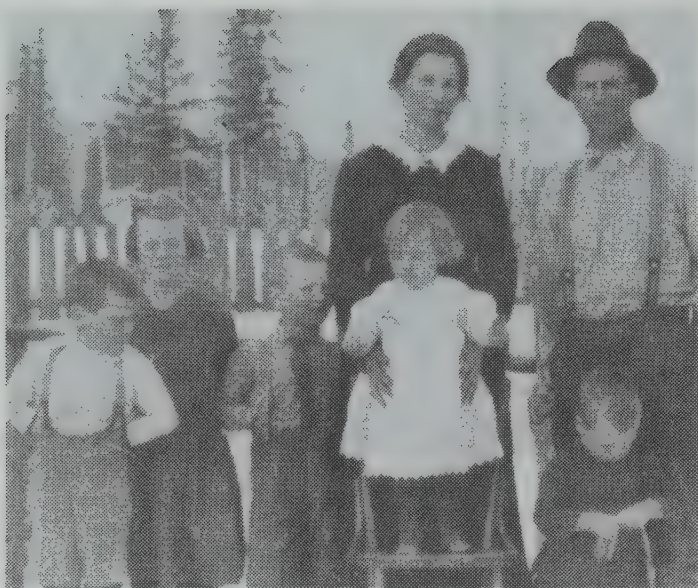
My parents, Given and Eva Ladouceur came from Ontario in 1914 and lived on a farm near Spruce Grove for a year. In 1915, they moved to a homestead three miles south of Imrie with their three small children: Evelyn, Buster and Bob. Dad worked on the railroad. There were no roads in the summer south of Imrie through the muskeg, and they had to walk on poles. If you missed your step, you were up to your waist in the muskeg. After the first year, Dad worked in the bush cutting logs in the winter and clearing land in the summer.

Mother worked hard. She milked cows and made butter which she sold at Bruce and Macphee's store in Evansburg. She sewed most of our clothes. In those days flour bags were used for many things.

Seven children were born at Imrie: Leo, Isabella, Phyllis, Given, Norbert, Orma and Edith.

We would have a picnic by the Lobstick river when school was out for the summer and everybody brought a big picnic lunch. I remember in the winter all the family would go to dances at Reno. Mom would make sandwiches and a cake. Dad put hay in the sleigh box, then blankets, and packed all the children in. We learned to dance when we were very young. There was a room with bunks where all the young children were put to sleep.

In the summer, Mom and Dad would pack us all in the Ford touring car and go to Chip Lake. Dad would rent a boat and take us fishing a couple at a time so we all had our turn.



Eva and Given Ladouceur with five oldest children 1919. (L—R) Bob, Evelyn, Buster, Isobel and Leo.



Ladouceur family 1928.

(B.R.) Evelyn (holding baby Edith) Buster, Bob and Leo. (2nd Row) Isabella, Phyllis, Gib, Norbert, Orma in front.

Our house was the place where all the young people would gather on Sunday. There was always plenty of food. We would have to wash the dishes and set the table again and again until everyone was fed.

Times were bad in the thirties, but we were never hungry - we had a big garden, lots of milk and butter and meat. I remember coming home from Evansburg with Dad and the car broke down, so he went and got the horses and pulled it home. Then he made a Bennet wagon out of it. It was comfortable to ride in with rubber tires and springs.

Buster and Given Jr. served in the second world war.

Mom and Dad sold the farm in 1949 and moved to Breton, Alberta. Given Sr. passed away in 1959.

Bob Ladouceur

by G. Ladouceur

Mr. and Mrs. Gib Ladouceur moved from Ontario early in 1915 and settled in the Stony Plain area. Bob was born there. He was the third child of ten children. Later the Ladouceur family moved to the Styal area and took up farming. Bob along with the rest of the family of nine went to the Imrie school. For entertainment all the young people gathered at each other's homes and had picnics, went bike riding and walked several miles to a dance.

After Bob finished school, he went to work in bush camps and with the lumber industry. He cut logs almost every winter and also hauled lumber from the Hanson Lumber Camp situated west of Alder Flats, which was fifty miles from Breton. He also did some carpenter work in between seasons. Since 1961, Bob operated his own business under the name of Breton Sand & Gravel Ltd, hauling gravel to lease roads for various oil companies. He also did cat work and maintained lease roads winter and summer.

Bob's dad passed away in 1959. His sister, Evelyn, passed away in 1954. Another sister, Phyllis, passed away in 1966. Also, a brother, Buster, passed away in 1969. Three brothers, Leo, Gibbie, and Norbert, reside on Vancouver Island. A sister, Isabella, resides at Richmond, B.C. Edith is living in Edmonton, and Orma lives at Boyle. Bob's mother is still living and lives at Northway Lodge in Edmonton.

I took my education in Wetaskiwin, and in 1939, Bob and I were married. We made our first home at Styal for five years, then moved to Wildwood. In 1950, we moved to Breton.



Ladouceurs logging at Styal.

We have four children. Nels, our only boy works for Atlantic Richfield Inc. as Field-Gas Superintendent in Jakarta, Indonesia. Donna, the eldest girl, lives in Drayton Valley and works at the Frank Maddock High School as Librarian. Her husband, Orest Gawalko, works for Gillis Construction in Drayton Valley. Phyllis is married to Patrick Jackson and lives near Mayerthorpe. Phyllis is the loans officer at the Alberta Treasury Branch there. Pat is in charge of the Canada Cities Service Gas Plant in the Paddle River area. Deanna, our youngest, lives in Edmonton and works for the Association of Registered Nursing Assistants and has been with this firm for several years.

We have ten grandchildren, our first grandchildren being twin girls who are now twenty-two years of age. We have one great-grandchild.

I was employed by the Village of Breton as Secretary-Treasurer for eight years. Since then, I accepted the position with the Village of Thorsby where I am presently employed and have been for the past four years.

Since we moved to Breton, we have participated in community work. Bob is a member of the Breton B.P.O.E. Lodge, and I am a member of the Breton O.O.R.P. Lodge. We have been members of the Breton Curling Club for many years, but for the past five years, we have been unable to keep up this

pace. We are also members of the Buford Vasa Lodge.

Bob has now retired and we live on an acreage approximately two and a half miles northwest of Breton.

Thomas Hiram Hadley

Thomas Hiram Hadley commonly known as 'Uncle Hite' was a brother to Robert and Roy H. Hadley. He was born in Gooderham Ontario in 1867. He came to the Styal area in 1916. He homesteaded NE-9-53-8-W5th and lived the life of a bachelor for twenty-two years. He was a good neighbor to all and was a good community worker. He was a woodsman and was the best saw sharpener in the area, a much needed occupation at that time. It is rumoured that he operated a "still on the hill" and produced a product that gave many a weary homesteader new courage to carry on with his work. Uncle Hite Hadley passed away in 1938 and is buried in the Evansburg cemetery.



Thos. "Hite" Hadley.

Robert and Isabella Hadley

Robert Hadley was born in Gooderham, Ontario in 1869, one of a family of twelve born to Solomon and Adelaide Hadley. He and his wife and some of his family came to the Styal District in 1916, where he filed on a homestead the S.E.-9-53-R8-W5thM. Bob Hadley operated a sawmill and



Robert and Isabella Hadley.

his wife Isabella cooked for the men. Five of their seven children married and lived in the Styal district. Eva married Given Ladouceur. They had ten children who grew up here and went to the Imrie school. Mae married Fred Taggart. They had seven children, five of whom attended the Imrie school. Bill Hadley married Edith Wright and Ray Hadley married Hilda Wright. They lived with their families for a time in the Styal district. Another son, Chesel married a girl from Ontario. They, too, resided in the Styal district.

In 1923, Bob Hadley was shot by an employee in a dispute over wages earned by working on Christmas Day. Robert Hadley is buried in the family plot in the Spruce Grove Cemetery.

Roy Hilton Hadley

by Floyd and Roy Hadley

Roy Hilton Hadley, our dad, was born in Gooderham, Ontario in 1883, the youngest of a family of twelve born to Solomon and Adelaide Hadley. As a young man he moved to Burlington, Ontario, and Finlon Falls, Ontario, and then to Souris, Manitoba, and thence to Cypress Hills in Manitoba. Here he met and married Effie McMillan. They had two children born in Cypress

Hillis, a daughter Mae and a son Ralph. They then moved to Arcola, Saskatchewan and then to Hanley. In Arcola another son was born, Herbert Hilton. Dad worked at freighting between towns, and then started working on the railway. In 1911, he moved to Alberta and became the first section foreman at Peers. In 1912 he moved to Spruce Grove. He was section foreman there until he went overseas in the Canadian Army in railway service in 1915. At Spruce Grove, three more sons were born to Roy and Effie Hadley; Floyd, Roy and Garth. When Dad went overseas, Mother was left to care for the six of us. Unfortunately she passed away in 1919 when the Spanish Flu took its toll. Dad had remained overseas in the Canadian Army of Occupation in Stores, but returned home in 1919. J. J. Hadley, who lived west of Spruce Grove, cared for our family until Dad returned.

In 1920, Dad purchased a farm at Athabasca through the Veteran's Board, so we moved to the farm that had a large house and a large hip-roofed barn (still standing at Athabasca). Farming was not very profitable, so Dad formed a partnership with a friend and they freighted north to Wabasca and Fort McMurray. On one trip they acted as guides for a geological group supplying transportation and freighting their supplies to Fort McMurray. This meant Dad would be gone for long periods of time. In the meantime we would be alone, cared for by an older person, living on porridge and partridges. We attended school briefly in Athabasca and then moved to Golden Spike to live with our grand-



Roy H. Hadley - doing fall plowing.



Roy H. Hadley cutting greenfeed with mower.

father, Solomon Hadley. We attended school at Golden Spike and then moved to the Styal area with our grandfather in 1921 and started going to the Imrie School.

School was held in a log building at Styal across the road from the Styal Store. It had been originally used as the post office, but when Rufus Hadley built the store in 1918, the post office was moved into the back of the store, and the log building used for the school.

In 1922, Dad filed on a homestead in the Styal area and we became a family again. Homesteading was not too profitable, so for a time Dad worked as a bridgeman on the railroad. He also did logging and sometimes acted as a hunting guide. Roads were practically nonexistent, but we managed. We walked to school on poles over the muskeg trails or on slabs covered with sawdust. Even wagon travel was incredibly rough. One wheel would be raised high on a stump while the wheel on the other side would be deep in a hole in the muskeg.

For recreation, there were always dances. Many were held in the homesteaders' homes. When the Styal Hall opened in 1936, it was a popular community centre for many years. Dad was a great entertainer. Like so many of the men from Eastern Canada, he was an accomplished 'fiddler' playing the Irish and Scottish reels. Dad was also a good step dancer and entertained at many a social gathering. We always had a good baseball team and

played against Reno and Wildwood. The school population was always large so we had many players who came to the "old sawdust pile" every night to play.

We left school at an early age and went to work. With so many sawmills in the district, jobs were always plentiful. We cut logs at five cents each and prided ourselves on the fact that we could cut more logs per day than any other team of men in the bush. We hunted partly for sport and partly for necessity as game was plentiful. In 1927, Dad married Emma Jeanette Court, and our family became larger. Our stepmother had four children - Imogene, George, Marjorie and Chester. Our first family gradually left home and went on their own. Mae married Bill Smith of Entwistle. Ralph and Herb married and moved to Edmonton and our history follows later in the book. More members of the family were born to Roy H. and Emma Jeanette Hadley; four daughters Berneice, Doreen, Betty and Shirley and one son Jerry. Dad passed away in 1965 in his eighty-third year and is buried in the soldiers' plot in the Evansburg Cemetery. Our Grandfather, Solomon Hadley is also buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.



Roy H. Hadley and his wife Emma on their twenty-fifth Wedding Anniversary.

Floyd and Lois Hadley

by Floyd Hadley

I was born in Spruce Grove, Alberta and my early life was spent in Spruce Grove and on a farm near Athabasca. The history of our early years is told in Roy Hilton Hadley's story. I moved with my family to the Styal district in 1921 and attended Imrie School. The first school was in the log building across from the store. Then a frame building was erected in 1923.

I left school to work in the bush and sawmills. Here I worked for twelve years. I helped Dad log and helped him to build a new house in 1939. For a short period of time I worked on a farm north of Edmonton, for the sum of fifteen dollars a month. My employer also owned the Gem Theatre and was quite generous in giving passes to his employees.

In 1940, I joined the Bridge Building Gang on the railroad and worked here for two years. In 1942, I joined the Royal Canadian Navy as a stoker. At the end of World War II in 1945, I returned to the railroad. Shortly afterwards in 1947, I went to work for the Provincial Government at the Alberta Hospital. I worked there for twenty-two years and retired in 1975.

I married Lois Willmer of Derwent, Alberta. We have three daughters, Lynda of Vancouver, and



Floyd Hadley family - Standing - Lois, Floyd, Lynda, Seated - Wendy and Gail.

twins, Wendy and Gail. Wendy lives with her husband Bob Sheridan and daughters, Carmen and Jill, in Sherwood Park. Gail and her husband, Terry Tomkin live in Edmonton.

I enjoy retirement and although I work part time, I prefer to look after my home and garden and go golfing.

Cecil Roy Hadley

by C. R. Hadley

I was born in Spruce Grove, Alberta, where Dad was section foreman. My early life is included with that of my family in Dad's history, namely Roy Hilton Hadley.

Besides cutting logs with my brother Floyd, I worked in sawmills canting logs. For a few years I worked at Battle Lake in a planer mill for Albert Nadeau. At one time, I rode a horse home from Battle Lake to the Styal area, crossing the river at Guy Lamoureux's crossing in the Reno area. On reaching Reno Hall, a dance was in progress, so I rested the horse and enjoyed myself for a few hours before continuing on home.

Often in the summer months I worked for Doug Profitt clearing land with axe and brawn. Doug and Mamie Profitt had come from Prince Edward Island, and after first homesteading in the Reno District purchased N.E. 22-53-8-W5 from Alex Collins. This quarter was covered with high aspen poplars and I cleared most of the acreage by hand. It was clearing not only above the ground but also below the ground. The Foley Trail ran west along this quarter, south of the Canadian National Railway and crossed the railroad west of the buildings and continued on west. Before plowing the land, corduroy that had been used to make the trail passable, had to be removed. Later, when I purchased the land from Mamie Profitt, I felt it already belonged to me. Doug hauled logs and was in partnership in a sawmill with Lorne Palmer. He was also a horse trader, so often had some very spirited horses. There were times I had to fish Doug out of the creek, when on returning from town, the horses took too sudden a turn, spilling wagon,



Doug Profitt home built in 1920's Doug & Ron Hadley on binder and tractor, 1952.



Roy Hadley with hunting trophy in 1938.



Hailstones in Styal area - 1948.

Doug and all. In 1938 and 1939 jobs were harder to get so I went trapping in the Morley district west of Calgary. It was a good winter and we got a good supply of furs, squirrel, mink, marten, some lynx and a mountain goat.

In 1939 I joined the army in Calgary in the Royal Canadian Engineers. Also in 1939, Edna Hutchinson and I were married. I trained in Calgary and in Dundurn, Saskatchewan, and went overseas in 1940. I was in England during the Battle of Britain and then was in the North African Campaign. Following this we went into the Mediterranean Theatre in the First Corps attached to the Eighth Army. Here we used Sicily as a base to invade Italy. We followed the campaign up through Italy and France to Belgium and Holland. I was granted home leave for long service the day before V.E. Day.

On returning home, Edna and I became farmers. We purchased the Doug Profitt quarter through V.L.A. for two thousand dollars with interest at three per cent. Payments to be made were one hundred dollars per year plus interest, for twenty years. We struggled with farming for five years. We were in a hail area in the summer months and in a frost area in the late spring and early fall. Where our quarter was situated many companies wanted a piece of it. Trans Mountain Pipe Line and North Canadian Oils put pipelines across the south side. In 1956 the Department of Highways purchased eighteen acres for Highway 16 widening, paralleling the Canadian National Railway. In 1973 Banff Mining and Quarrying purchased eight acres to expand their plant. I sold all the land south of Highway 16.

In 1953 Edna went back teaching in Evansburg. In 1956 I started driving a bus for the Edson School Division. This was the year all surrounding country schools were closed and students were bussed to Evansburg. I drove the Holly Springs school bus for twenty-three years, retiring in 1979. I started in the area with a twenty-passenger bus, but as the population increased my bus became larger. I ended my career with a fifty-four passenger bus. Roads



25th Wedding Anniversary of Roy & Edna Hadley with sons Ron(L) and Doug(R)

were barely adequate when I began driving but residents were always on the alert to see that the bus got through to deliver its students safely. There were hazards at all times of the year; drifted roads, icy roads, Squaw Creek flooding in spring and slippery roads in rainy weather.

We have two sons, Doug born in 1947 and Ron in 1948. Doug and Ron received their elementary and high school education in Evansburg. They were active in Cadets during that time. Doug joined the R.C.M.P. in 1967. He lives in Quesnel, British Columbia, with his wife Judy and three children, Russell, Nichole and Brandace. Ron lives in Edmonton with his wife Larissa.

In 1957 we built a house. I had logged during the winter months in 1955 and had the logs sawn at Ed Stroshin's sawmill in the south Reno District. The lumber was dry-piled and then planed - enough for framing the house. To complete the project, I borrowed three thousand dollars from V.L.A. for roofing, siding, chimney and electrical wiring.

Plumbing came later as we got the money. There is not much comparison to the cost of houses in the eighties.

I have been an active member of the Royal Canadian Legion since 1947, and am a member of the Entwistle Elks and have been a member of the Double E Lions club since its organization.

I enjoy retirement on our acreage. I keep busy cutting grass, gardening and snowblowing. Sometimes I work part time in the Liquor store. I golf in the summer months, disk with the seniors and enjoy all the local hockey games in the winter months. Edna taught school in the area for thirty-five years. Her story is a separate item in this book.

Garth Hadley

by Floyd Hadley

On leaving school, Garth Hadley went to work in and around Edmonton. In 1940, he joined the Royal Canadian Navy as a seaman. He served for five years and became a Petty Officer. In 1947, he moved to Vancouver where he worked for many years as a guard and gardener at the British Columbia Penitentiary. He and his wife Bea are retired and own and operate an antique shop at Harrison Hot Springs, B.C.



Styal young men late 1930's. (L—R) Earl Brooks, Roy Hadley, Leo Ladouceur.

The Court/Hadley Family

by Mrs. Emma Jeanette Court/Hadley

I was born in Des Moines, Iowa on March 20, 1901, one of a family of twelve born to George and Salina Kile. In 1917 I married a rancher, Andrew Court and in due time we had two little girls, Imogene and Delilah. Court raised cattle, but the ranch was rented, so most of the profits went to pay the rent. We decided to explore the possibilities of finding a home of our own. Court wanted to go

to South America, but friends and neighbours were going to Canada, and the idea appealed to me, so Canada it was. We sold everything, and with one large trunk, two suitcases and two little girls, we boarded the train on June 11, 1920 and arrived in Edmonton on June 15. We got a one-room apartment, furnished for twenty dollars a month. I stayed here with the children while Court explored the country in every direction. In September, the children caught measles and Delilah passed away.

Court finally decided to settle two and one half miles west of the community of Evansburg on NW23-53-8-W5, owned at that time by John Orachuk. It had a two room log house, a granary and a barn all made of logs, with about eight acres cleared. For this we paid sixteen hundred dollars cash. The mine was operating in Evansburg, but there were no roads east, west, north or south. The Foley Trail wound through the trees south of the railroad, and passed very close to the north end of our house. We were about one mile from the Styal Station, Store and Post Office. (The store and Post Office had been opened by Rufus Hadley and his wife in 1918.)



Andrew Court

We purchased a few pieces of furniture and stoves in Edmonton and had them shipped by rail to Evansburg. Getting them to the farm was the problem now, but fortunately for us the section-foreman helped us. He and his men loaded our effects on a flat push car and took it down to the crossing and unloaded it. Myself, my husband and little girl rode on the hand car behind the push car, and then we carried everything over by hand to our new home.

While I stayed and cleaned house, Mr. Court went to work on the railroad that fall. There was plenty of work around, either in the mine or in the surrounding sawmills. We had been accustomed to buying our supplies for six months at a time, so we did the same here. There were neighbours on nearly every quarter. The passenger train came from the east three times a week in the evening, and there was always a crowd there to meet someone getting off, or to get the mail. Our worst drawback was the water. We used the creek water when it was clear, and after we got horses, Andy hauled water from Evansburg for the house. After he came over that road with a wagon there was not much water left from a full barrel. In the winter we melted snow. Nearly everyone else did the same. By next spring, we had two cows and a team of horses and a wagon and plow. We got chickens, pigs, and turkeys so there was lots of work to do at home. We cleared land so we could raise and feed the stock, but it was a slow job doing it by hand. During the spring and summer of 1921, construction started on the road west of Evansburg. This is the road that started where the Grassi building is now and went through the cutbanks at Proehl's farm. The road was built as far as Styal with manpower, horse and scrapers doing the work. This made it somewhat easier to travel to and from Evansburg and Styal. On June 21, 1921 George was born. Two years later on April 18, Marjorie was born. Then we had to build a new house, as the old log one was not big enough. Mr. Court was a carpenter by trade, so our new house was a frame one. We moved in before it was finished. On April 3, 1925 another baby boy, Chester, came to make the family larger. In the spring of 1926 Mr. Court had nearly thirty acres of



The Court Family - Chester, Marjorie, George and Imogene.

crop in, when he suddenly passed away with a cerebral hemorrhage. There was no church in the district or any place for a funeral, so we had an open air service. A very good neighbor, Mr. William Muntz had made the casket and helped in every way he could, as he helped many others in the same way. Andrew Court was buried in the Evansburg cemetery and I was left with four little ones under eight years of age. I knew I had to carry on. My niece, Elsie Sutter, came to make her home with me. Elsie was seventeen years of age and a great help and comfort, so everything went along quite well. I started Imo to school in Evansburg that fall.

It was the same distance to the Imrie School, but there was no road, only swamp and muskeg. She had only one month of schooling that year. Elsie and I took turns going to the bush back of my house to haul in dry wood. In the spring we had Mr. Mazeppa come with his buzz saw and cut it up. We had nearly enough wood for two years.

That winter I met Mr. Roy H. Hadley at one of the school dances. He had been left with six children, and still had four boys at home with him (the two older ones had married and left home.) We decided to get married and make a complete home for us all, so with my two boys and two girls and his four boys we had an overnight family of ten. We lived in the large log house on Roy Hadley's homestead, with the school one-half mile away. As time passed, we added six more children to our family. One baby died shortly after birth, but

we raised four girls Berneice, Doreen, Betty and Shirley and one son, Jerry. We had five or six cows, pigs and chickens, so feeding the family was not too much of a problem. We had plenty of garden produce and wild fruit, supplemented by wild meat (deer and moose), home cured pork, and chickens and eggs from the farm.

Clothing was quite a problem, but I kept the sewing machine going. The hundred pound flour sacks were of strong cotton, so were bleached and put to many uses. One of the boys still chuckles about wearing a shirt to school with the figure of Robin Hood across his back. Liners of hundred pound sugar sacks and twenty pound oatmeal sacks were of finer cotton, so were used for finer clothing. The burlap from the sugar sacks, I used for hooking rugs, using discarded clothing. I also made quilts from remnants and discarded clothing for our many beds. Roger's Golden Syrup ten pound pails and five or ten pound lard pails made good lunch buckets for the children going to school or for the men going to the bush to cut logs. In the summer months they were used for picking wild fruit.

At times a large family has its compensations. At one of the early picnics held at Wildwood, the Hadleys won first prize for having the largest family on the grounds. The prize was a porridge pot full of Sunlight Soap.



Roy H. Hadley family going shopping 1940's



Roy H. Hadley and family (Back Row) (L—R) Roy Hadley Sr., Mae, Ralph, Herb, Floyd, Roy and Garth. Mrs. Emma J. Hadley (Front Row) Berneice, Doreen, Betty, Shirley and Jerry.

In 1939 we built our present home. We all had a hand in making it. Even though it was not finished, we moved into it in the fall. The same year war broke out and then one after the other, the boys enlisted. At one time we had six in uniform. Then we worried when we did not hear from them when we thought we should. One by one they married and left home. My husband, Roy Hadley passed away on July 12, 1965 and is buried in the Soldier's Plot in the Evansburg Cemetery. (He had served in the war of 1914-18.) I still maintain the family home. A few changes have been made, electricity, water pressure system and propane furnace. My family live in various parts of the country but return periodically.

Imogene married Stan Guinan and lives in Reno, Nevada. She has two adopted daughters, Donna and Delores. George spent five years in the army, serving in Canada and overseas, and on returning

married Vi Warbecki from Edson. They farm in the Reno district. They have a family of six - Laura married in Niagara Falls; Diane works in Edmonton; Marilyn lives in St. Albert with her husband and two sons; Larry is a heavy duty mechanic working in Edmonton. Darlene is married and living in Drayton Valley, and Kathy is at home.

Marjorie married Art Holman of Edson. They live in Vernon, B.C. and have a family of four girls and two boys. Chet married Nova Plante and had one son and two daughters. Chet passed away in 1979. Berneice married Bill Maguire from Reno district. They have two sons, Pat and Wayne and one daughter, Shauna. Doreen married Wally Geibelhaus of Edmonton. They and their two sons live in Kelowna. Betty married Albert Bohnet of Entwistle. They live in Penticton, B.C. Betty and Albert had three children of their own and adopted three. Shirley taught school in Alberta for a few

years. She married Wm. Worth and they live in Dodsland, Saskatchewan. Jerry married Mona Madill and they live in Edmonton. They have one son and one daughter.

Note/ Grandma Hadley recently celebrated her 80th birthday, with a combination birthday party and family reunion. Present were ten of her sons and daughters and one hundred and fifty relatives and friends. She lives alone and spends her time making quilts of traditional designs for her many grandchildren.



Emma Jeanette Hadley on her 80th birthday.

The Street Family (Ted and Mary)

by Phyllis Worrall (nee - Couves)

We all have our favourite, or at least more memorable people, individuals who throughout all our lives are remembered, sometimes with acute dislike, but more often with admiration, affection and respect. To the latter group belong Mr. and Mrs. Street, a couple very much a part of my childhood and growing-up years.

A short, homely, good-natured Englishman and a gaunt, dour Scotswoman -- were the Streets. Ted was a sheep man. His father had been a shepherd in



Mrs. Street wading in the Lobstick River.

England and the son had been brought up with the "woolies". Ted had been farming in southern Alberta when he met Mary Beatty. Both were past their first youth. They married and came north, in what year I cannot say, but they were well established by the early part of the nineteen-twenties. They lived above the Lobstick River, north of Styal, on a piece of land more open than most of the countryside at that time.

It was there that my family, the Couves met Mr. and Mrs. Street and experienced their kindness and hospitality over many years. Their home was opened to our whole family one time for a considerable period, while Dad and Charlie worked on road-building - only one example of their open handedness. I visited there regularly until going away to work and school. Such visits were a delight to me, not the least attraction being Mrs. Street's baking. Coming as I did from a spartan household where sweets were a rarity, the Street's table, at meal times, was replete, so it seemed, with desserts. The dispensing of the goodies was almost a ritual. Several colourful tin cookie containers were set at the hostess's end of the large, dining-room table. When the main course was finished Mrs. Street opened each one in turn, extracting fruit cake, short-bread and other delights. That memory is even clearer than the one of the old-fashioned pendulum clock that hung on one wall.

The Streets had the first radio in the district. Well I recall sitting beside the machine, taking turns with other members of the family in using the earphones - no loud speaker then. It was the era of Amos and Andy, the "Farmer" from Edmonton and other long-gone programs.

Mrs. Street was a walker. She walked north to visit us and other friends in the Holly Springs district and to Evansburg, often along the old Canadian Northern right-of-way for part of the distance. Mr. Street, too, walked. As late as 1938, I think it was, he and my father, on the night of a cold Christmas Day trekked from Evansburg to the Street farm, an unavoidable but necessary trip.

People often turned to the Streets for help. It was suspected that sometimes Ted's good-nature was being imposed upon. No doubt Mrs. Street's sharp, Scottish eyes perceived this but I doubt that such perception ever resulted in a curtailment of help.

Two brothers of Mrs. Street's, Nick and Hector Beatty visited their sister. Hector, I remember was young, Nick older. Nick stayed for some time after the Streets themselves left and operated the farm. Old Mr. Beatty, (her father) spent his last days with Mary and Ted housed in a bedroom off the primitive kitchen. Ted loved people and his sheep but a carpenter he was not.

The Street's last home was on Vancouver Island near Parksville. Mrs. Street developed a heart condition, but for a while at least, her troubles were forgotten when Mother and Mrs. Smith visited her one time. Mother, reporting on that visit, tells how the old friend laughed so gaily when recalling some incident of years before. That dour exterior covered a blithesome spirit.

Mrs. Street died. Not long after that Ted was killed while riding his bicycle into town.

This never-to-be-forgotten couple left no children - only memories in the minds of those who knew them.

Nichol Beatty, a brother of Mrs. Street, lived on

their quarter after they moved to B.C. This quarter is now owned by Fred Rouschop.

Angus McCuspie

Angus McCuspie filed on a quarter east of Streets down by the river. One year he went to the Edmonton Exhibition and lost his money buying a gold brick from a fast-talking salesman. He used to get eggs from Mrs. Street. One day she asked him "Will ye no bring back the shells?"

Mev and Henry Wilson

Mev Wilson and his brother Henry lived in a little shack perched on the river bank near Streets. Mev married Mary Marshall and they later moved to B.C. Henry married Martha Ziegler and they, too, went to B.C.

Wood, Clark and Collins Families

Prior to the merge of Clark and Sylvester Families

As far as I am able to remember

by Marylou (Clark) Sylvester

For some years, Findlay James Wood, a storekeeper in Petrolia, Ontario, realized he would have to take his wife, Emily Mary Wood, nee Brake, out west to see if such a move would be of any help to her difficult health as an asthmatic. Final arrangements were made in early 1913. All property had been sold and the family moved west to Edmonton. Jim and Em, as they were known, had only two children, both girls, having lost two sons as wee boys. Their elder daughter, at the time of their move, was twenty-one years old. She, Eva Brake Wood, had married Alexander Collins, May 8, 1911.

Alex was a Petrolia boy, and they had already moved to Winnipeg where Alex was working.

The other daughter, Louise Brake Wood, was twenty-seven years old that July when the family moved into Edmonton. They bought two lots and a house on 72nd Street and settled in.



Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Wood on the Styal homestead, 1919.



Mrs. Louise Clark 1955 as Secretary-Treasurer of Wildwood.

When Em's health still had not appreciably improved, they took a homestead at Styal. That property later became the farm of George and Helen Nelson and their daughter Lorna, across the road from Roy and Edna Hadley's quarter.

Except for holidays, Louise Wood remained in Edmonton. Among her employers were City of Edmonton, F. A. Nye Ltd., and Wilson Stationers Ltd.

During these same few years, George C. Clark and his son, Glenn, lived a few blocks further east in the Highlands district of Edmonton. Glenn was born October 2, 1895, in Mill Plain, Connecticut, while his mom was accompanying his dad on a selling trip. George C. Clark was a telegrapher for the New York Central R. R. Since Glenn's mother, Nellie Woodward Clark, had died when Glenn was only nine years old, he lived for a few years with his Aunt Eusebia (Seba) Clark, and then attended boarding school for a few years. He spent his summers with his dad. He attended Western Canada College in Calgary when it was a military academy. At that time the Clarks were still American citizens, so when Glenn joined the Army his father (a very forceful fellow) insisted it be the American Army. Glenn therefore returned to the family home at Richville, N.Y. where he joined the U.S. Army to fight in World War I. While he was in France, Glenn sent a ruby ring to Louise in Edmonton and they became formally engaged. After his return, Glenn and Louise were married in Edmonton on October 2, 1919.

When Em and Jim moved to Styal, Glenn and Louise bought the house and one of their two lots on 72nd Street and lived there with the two children who were subsequently born, George Roger (Rod) and myself, Mary Louise (Marylou) Clark, until 1935.

Meanwhile Em and Jim Wood with their old ox, Simon, hacked out a farm, built a log house and dug a well. Those original farm buildings would have been located on the north side of Highway 16-A, just east and across from the Peat Moss Plant.

Meanwhile, Alexander Collins had moved his family up to Edmonton from Winnipeg. He joined the Canadian Army and also served in France, as did his brother-in-law to be, Glenn Clark, though they were serving two different allied countries. After World War I, Eva and Alex also took a homestead in the Styal District. It was the place where Doug and Mamie Profitt later lived, and in more recent years has been the property of Roy and Edna Hadley. I am not at all sure how long they



Glenn Clark turning sod on N. side of Highway 16A with 22-36 McCormick Deering Tractor (1936)

remained in the district, but do know they all moved back into Edmonton about 1927, when Em's health deteriorated even further.

Years later, in 1935, Glenn and Louise traded their home in Edmonton to Mrs. Rufus Hadley and daughter Clara as a down payment for the purchase of the Hadley store, Post Office and a half section farm at Styal. We lived there from 1935 to 1939. With distances becoming shorter due to new and improved transportation, and larger towns within a few miles to the east and to the west, and the fact that it was during the "hungry thirties" when no one had any money with which to pay their bills, it became impossible for the Clarks to continue the payment to the Hadleys for the place. As a result they traded back their properties. By this time Clara Hadley had married Eric Savage, so together with Mrs. Hadley, they returned to Styal for a few years and operated the store themselves.

In 1939, Glenn and Louise again sold their Edmonton property and bought a mink ranch west of Wildwood from a Mr. Tredway and his sons, Reg and Bruce. The Clarks continued to live on that property until Glenn's death in January, 1962.

During the years at Wildwood, Glenn farmed, and in the last year or two of his life was also a magistrate. Louise worked for a few years before Glenn's death, and again for a period of time after his death, as secretary-treasurer for the village of Wildwood.

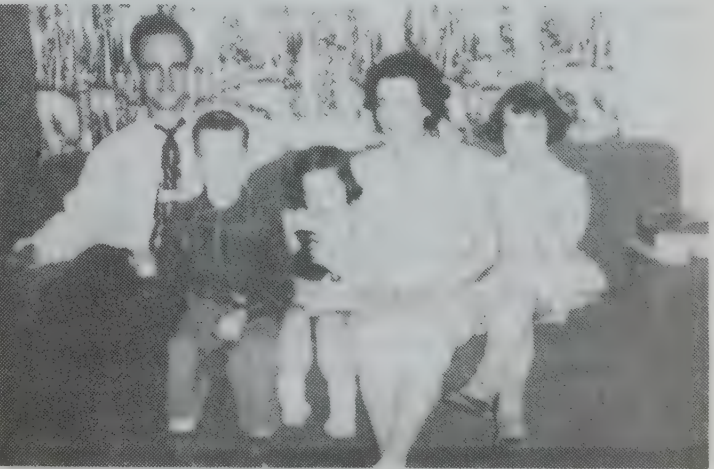
Rod married Dorothy Agnes Edgar on January 10, 1942. Rod was in the R.C.A.F. 1941-45, and started a welding business in Wildwood 1946-65. (Rod's Welding and Repair).

Rod moved from Wildwood in 1966, a short time after Dorothy's death in 1965. Rod remarried in March, 1967, to Margaret Joss of Edmonton. They now live from April to October north of Athabasca at Baptiste Lake, and October to April in Arizona. Rod was forced to retire early with severe back problems.

Marylou attended school at Imrie and Evansburg. The Clarks moved to Wildwood at this time. Then Marylou lived at Prizeman's on the old Tuke farm in a mud-plastered house until she finished high school. After graduating from college in Edmonton, she worked for Dr. F. S. McCall at Alberta College. Marylou married Rich Sylvester in the fall of 1942. They have three children, Patricia, Lynn and Richard.

The Collins family is comprised of five children - Wood (retired and living at Delta, B.C.), Richard (deceased - never married), Margaret (Mrs. Robert Gray, living in Red Deer), Elsiemary (Mrs. Jack Armstrong living at Crescent Beach in Surrey, B.C. Jack works for P.W.A. and El has retired from C.P.A.) The fifth child, Donald, is deceased.

Wood had three children, Margaret had two children, Elsiemary had five children, and Donald and Dell had three children. Dell is an artist and living in Edmonton.



Rod Clark family, Rod, Dorothy, Donna-Mae, Brian and Joanne.



Herbert and Mamie Edgar - 1944.

The Edgars

Herbert Edgar, his wife Mamie and their two children, Dorothy and Donald, came to homestead four miles south-west of Styal in 1935. Herbert, a watchmaker by trade, left his business in Edmonton to live in the country and away from city life. They had begun building their home when fire destroyed it in 1937. They returned to Edmonton for a few months but love for the country made them return to build again. Both Herbert and Mamie became involved in the activities of the area. Donald, then aged ten, attended Imrie School. Any post office or shopping needs were done in the general store at Styal or on a trip to Wildwood. In 1942, daughter Dorothy married George Roger Clark (known as Rod), son of Glen and Louise Clark who operated Styal General Store. In 1948, Herbert, Mamie and Donald moved to Wildwood. He resumed his watch repair business in Skogg's General Store for a time, until adding an office onto his own home. He became the first mayor of Wildwood in 1948. Later he was appointed Justice of the Peace. Donald became Secretary-Treasurer of M. D. 94 during this time.

Mamie was actively involved in all aspects of community work. Many may remember her and

Mrs. Sieffert working in the kitchen at the popular Wildwood Saturday Night Dances, and serving popcorn at the shows in the Community Hall while Donald ran the projector. A special event held close to her heart, was the gathering of some thirty ladies involved in a birthday club which celebrated each lady's birthday by appearing at her respective home for a huge lunch.

Herbert was born in 1885 in Ontario and served and was wounded for his country at Vimy Ridge in World War I. He passed away February 12th, 1956. Shortly thereafter, Mamie and son Donald moved to Edmonton where she still resides. Dorothy and Rod remained in Wildwood with their three children - Donna-Mae, Brian and Joanne, until Dorothy passed away December 7th, 1965.

Dorothy and Rod Clark lived in Vulcan, Alberta, for a few years while Rod was in the R.C.A.F. From there they went to Calgary for a short time and then moved to the Edgar farm at Styal. Rod set up business in Wildwood and moved the family there in 1947 or 1948. Dorothy passed away and is buried in Edmonton.

Dorothy belonged to many organizations - among them were Ladies Aid, Secretary-Treasurer of the Home and School Association, and Secretary at the school until her passing.

Rod was, and still is, a member of Wildwood Elks.



Edgar family (L—R) Donald, Dorothy, Herbert and Mamie.



Four Generations: Mary Hart, Mamie Edgar, Dorothy Clark, Donna-Mae (Clark) Mitchell.

Their daughter, Donna-Mae, married Garry Mitchell of Evansburg in 1966. They have two children - Wesley and Dorothea. They live in the farming district of Magnolia and own and operate Read's Lumber and Building Supplies. Prior to this, they built the Snack Shack on the highway in the spring of 1971 and operated it until the fall of 1979.

Joanne married Dennis Tomkinson of Evansburg in 1967. They have two children - Cory and Jolie. They live in Sherwood Park. Dennis is a legal surveyor with Can-Am Surveys.

Brian married Bonnie Mercle from Edmonton in 1969. They have three children - Nicole, James and Joanna. They live in Calgary and Brian works for Xerox of Canada.

Donald Edgar married Jackie King in 1962. They have two sons - Kelly and Kyle who are still living at home. They reside in Edmonton.

Mary and Hugh Hart (Mamie's parents) had moved to the farm at Styal in 1938 (from Regina) and lived there until their passing, (Mary 1869-1946, and Hugh 1863-1942). Donald, aged three years, and Jerry, eleven and a half months, came with their grandma and grandpa as their parents had

passed away. Their mother was Mamie's sister Myrtle. Mamie and Herbert raised the boys. The Harts are buried in Wildwood. Herbert is buried in Edmonton.

Douglas Murray Profitt

by F. and A. Palmer

Douglas Profitt came from Prince Edward Island to homestead in the Reno district. He did logging in the winters. From 1928 to 1931 he and Lorne Palmer ran a sawmill.

Mamie Sheen came out from Prince Edward Island to marry Douglas in 1928. They lived across from the sawmill until 1931, when they moved north of the railroad to where Roy Hadley lives now. Douglas farmed and logged for several years.

Mrs. Profitt found work as manageress in the Commodore Hotel in Edson. Doug went to work in the logging industry in Valemont, B.C.

Both have since died.



Mamie Profitt

James C. Sweeney

by Lil Barnhart



Doug Profitt bringing a load of logs to the mill at Palmers.

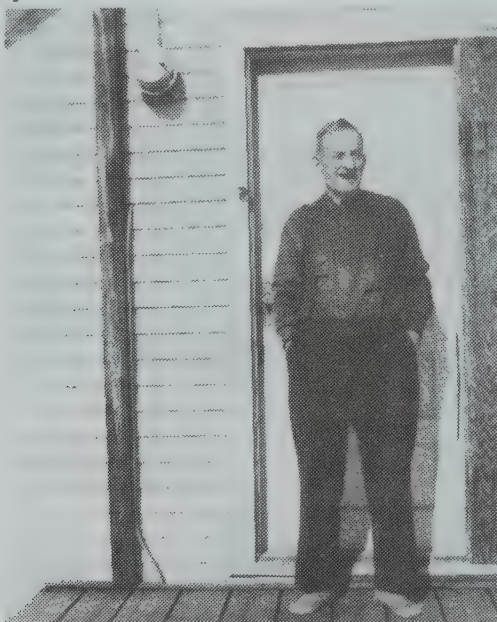
Fred Lee

by F. and A. Palmer

Fred came to Reno from Eatonia, Saskatchewan with Lorne Palmer, Nathan Mitchell, Laurence Mitchell and Wyman Fullerton in 1923.

He worked in logging camps in the winter and did harvesting on the prairie in the fall. He sometimes stayed with Lorne Palmer and at other times with Ladouceurs. He often brought little gifts for the children.

He was bartender in the Evansburg Hotel from about 1944 to 1946. He had a house next to Bill Hermanrudes where he lived when he retired. He died around 1966 and is buried in the Evansburg cemetery.



Fred Lee

As he was fond of telling us, Jim was born on Washington's birthday, February 22nd, in the year of Canada's birthday (1867). He came with his family from Ireland at an early age to settle in Ontario. He was encouraged to go west as a young man by his uncle, Mr. J. Shirley, who was the Sheriff at Prince Rupert in the territory of Rupert's Land. Evidently he did not find that part of the country exactly to his liking for he drifted back into Alberta, working as a log cutter.

In the early 1920's he took up a homestead in the Imrie district, just west of the Fred Phillips family. Later he sold the timber on this quarter and it was logged by the Eccles Lumber Co.

Betty Benesch (nee Phillips) remembers many visits they had from Jim, some just newsy, others for the borrowing of necessary items such as sugar, when the supply ran out. He tolerated no nonsense from the children, and wasn't above turning one over on his knee to prove it, if something they did displeased him on one of their sojourns to his cabin.

Jim lived nearly ten miles from either Wildwood or Evansburg and his only means of transportation was by foot. In later years he just walked to the highway, about three miles away, and used the Greyhound Bus. After he had completed his business in town, he would spend the waiting period till bus time at the local pub or "beer parlor" as it was called, socializing and refreshing himself. Sometimes his return journey was fraught with difficulty, and he called in at the neighbors who lived along the way for a bit of rest and sustenance.

In about 1950 he purchased a snug little oil shed from the Palmers who had the B.A. sales outlet in Evansburg, and had it moved to the Carlstrom farm. This was fixed up as a residence. He had Mike Mandriak move his belongings from the homestead shack, and he moved in. This simplified life as he was now just a quarter mile from the



Jim Sweeney

highway, and he lived there for the rest of his life.

I remember Jim as tall and thin, always clean shaven, with a natty mustache, and his wavy silver hair neatly combed. He always wore a necktie and smoked a crooked pipe filled with Old Chum tobacco. He loved to tease us as children, and we enjoyed it. He was always vitally interested in any news and liked to listen to the radio.

James C. Sweeney passed away in Edmonton after a short illness in January, 1959, at the age of ninety-one.

Jas. M. Reid

by Lil Barnhart

Jim was born in Nova Scotia. Very little is known about his early life until he joined the Canadian Army, and served overseas in the first World War. I have in my possession his 1914 Military Training handbook, and inside is a card written to his mother at Sandville, N.S. from France. Dated April 24th, 1918, it reads in part:

“We left England a little more than three weeks ago and are now within hearing of the guns, and may be here for a while. We have a theatre and YMCA, and sleep in iron huts.”

It is believed he sustained some impairment after exposure to gas warfare and returned to Canada before the date of the Armistice.



J. M. Reid.

Shortly after his release from the army he came to the Imrie district, and settled on his farm just a mile west of the station. Evelyn Hutchinson recalls that for a time in 1926 the A. Feldberg family lived in his house until they were able to get a homestead of their own farther north. Jim then occupied a bedroom upstairs until he went to Edmonton for a while, and it is not known just when exactly he returned to the farm. He had seventeen acres of opened land at this point.

Ken Carlstrom remembers that in the mid 1930's Jim traded a cow to Mr. Ted Street for a radio. He had Bill Barwise come out from Evansburg to replace the headset with a speaker which he mounted on the wall above the cream separator. Now, more than one person could listen at a time and the Carlstrom family was invited to come and listen to this great innovation. Ken recalls vividly the stuffed magpie that sat on the west wall and viewed all the proceedings as long as Jim lived there. He also remembers the many batteries on the shelf beneath the radio. He has a treasured souvenir that Jim gave him, a 1929 calendar from Condin's Universal Garage in Junkins.

Jim farmed with a team of horses, kept a few cows, and shipped cream which he carried to the station in a three-gallon can. Though not exactly an outstanding success as a farmer, he is fondly



Harold Carlstrom, 1967.

remembered as a colorful addition to our community life.

As we passed directly by his house on our way to school, it was always our lot to call and ask him for donations for the local picnics, concerts and funds such as Red Cross. Though these solicitations were less than welcome, he nevertheless usually contributed. He was a very patriotic man, proud of his British heritage.

In about 1963 he became ill, left the district and for the remainder of his life lived at Government House in Edmonton. James Meikle Reid died in April, 1968 at the age of seventy-three.

The Brooks Family

by Josephine (Hoople) and Ruth (Messenger)

The Brooks family arrived in the Styal district in 1923. Dad was born in Toronto in 1873. At the age of eighteen, he experienced the Gold Rush Days of the Klondike, travelling over the Chilkoot Pass with his brother Burton. Here he met with a serious back injury when a gold mine caved in on him. When able to travel, he went to Vancouver for medical aid. From there he travelled to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan working as a pay master for the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Our mother, Winnifred Munkley, was one of the

first telephone operators (known then as the "Hello Girls") in Saskatoon. This is where Dad and Mother met and married in 1907.

They decided to take up farming, moving to Anichine and then Tuxford, Saskatchewan. During a period of sixteen years they had six of their seven children - Dorothy, Burton, Earl, Josephine, Oliver and Ruth.

Finally the drought years on the prairies forced them to move west. Mother and family came first by train and Dad travelled later with as many possessions as he could possibly bring, including a team of horses. Unable to load all his machinery, it was left in the fields. Soon after arriving, the horses contracted a disease and had to be destroyed.

It rained the whole summer long in 1923 and coming from the dried out prairies we younger children were afraid of all the rain.

The first place we moved was to a homestead we rented. The people who previously owned it had lost two little children and they were buried by the side of the road just off the old highway. There were no cemeteries and very poor roads at that time. We younger children often used to go and visit these graves.

On October 26, 1925 Dad obtained entry for a homestead, (in Township 53, Range 8, West of 5). During this period, their seventh child Vivian was born.



House on the homestead - 1930.

Not able to move onto the homestead until they had a house built, Dad and the boys worked in various lumber camps and sawmills until they obtained enough lumber to complete the house. They moved into their house in March, 1930.

At very young ages the boys and Dad worked long, hard hours clearing and cultivating the land. Dad spent much of his time raising rhubarb and celery and ditching the muskeg. Mother enjoyed her flower and vegetable gardens, working long hours making them a success. We all used to enjoy Mother's hot cakes. Although the boys are grown men now, they still talk about her hot cakes.

The ladies of the district had quilting bees and meetings for a bit of relaxation. Mother enjoyed this very much.

At the ages of eighteen and twenty Burton and Earl with a friend decided to explore the north country where their father had been. Travelling first to Vancouver and then via steamboat they headed for Dawson City. Here they worked in the bush and loaded steamboats. Burton returned three years later but Earl stayed there.

Oliver joined the Air Force when the war started and made this his career until his retirement. Then he settled in Surrey, B.C. until his death in 1974 at age fifty-six.

Dorothy left home when sixteen years old. She went to Vancouver to live and work for her aunt. Returning later with her husband, they took up residence in Edmonton.

Josephine and Ruth live in Entwistle. Vivian lives at Red Deer. Earl still resides in Whitehorse, Yukon. Burton lives at Styal in the old Styal Store and Post Office building.

Ill health forced Mother and Dad to leave the farm and move to Evansburg. Dad passed away in May 1949 at the age of seventy-six. Mother spent her remaining years at Entwistle enjoying her small home, garden, flowers, and many friends. She

passed away in 1967 at the age of seventy-eight. Both are resting in the Evansburg Cemetery.



Saw mill at Styal on Palmers place, 1930.

Lawrence (Lorne) and Annie Palmer

In about June, 1923, Lorne Palmer, Nathan Mitchell, Lawrence Mitchell, Fred Lee and Wyman Fullerton came from Eaton, Saskatchewan, to the Reno district where they each filed on a homestead. They had read an article written by Arthur Wolff, Senior, in either the Farm and Ranch Review or the Country Guide with pictures of sheep grazing in lush greenery.

In October, 1924, Lorne, his wife Annie, their daughter Frances, and sons Bill and Bob (a baby) stepped off the train at Styal. That winter was spent with the Nathan Mitchell family. Sunday must have been anything but quiet with seven children, four parents as well as the three other men from Saskatchewan, who were logging during the week. Wild game was plentiful and Lawrence Mitchell kept them well supplied with meat. He shot seven deer and five moose that winter. They could even share with their neighbors.

Transportation was along trails through the bush. It fell to Annie Palmer's lot at times to bring the men from camp with the horses and sleigh bunks (used for hauling logs). She felt she might get lost but the men assured her that the snow was so deep she couldn't get off the trail.

Lorne and his family went back to Saskatchewan to put in the crop in the spring of 1925. Lorne star-



About 1925 on W. Hoople's place. Later Lorne Palmer's. (L—R) Fred Lee, Bentley Fullerton, Art Williams, Lawrence Mitchell, Karl Schlecker, Wyman Fullerton, Roy Hadley Sr., Charlie Tonger, George Thomas.

ted ploughing with a two bottom plough. By the time he was half way down the field, stones had broken one share and bent the other. He stormed back to the house and hollered, "If anyone catches me farming in Saskatchewan again, I hope they shoot me!"

The family moved back to the Reno District and lived in Doug Profitt's house while the men worked in the bush during the winter of 1925 - 1926. Lorne's homestead was heavy bush and although four acres were eventually cleared, the Palmers never lived there. Lorne helped to take out logs for the first Reno School, but by this time Frances was old enough to go to school. They moved to the Styal district where Lorne bought N.W. 15-53-8-W5, (the quarter south of Roy Hadley, Senior), from Bill Hoople. Frances started school in the Imrie school a half mile west of the farm.

At one time Lorne served as secretary-treasurer of the Imrie School Board and Annie was a trustee. Imrie was a one-room school with an enrolment of forty-four pupils. It was located one mile south and half a mile west of Styal Station.

Some of the teachers from 1926 to 1935 were Mr. Brickman, Miss Venie Seabloom, Miss Sinclair, Miss Grace Farewell, Mrs. Theresa Dennehy, Miss

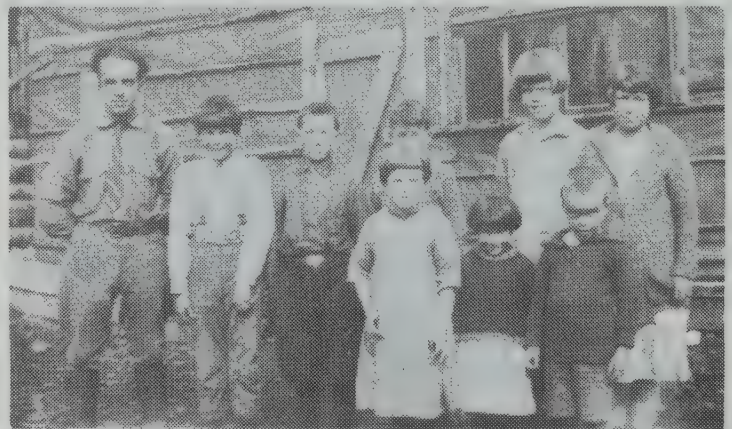
Lyle Caroline Hawes, Miss Mary Howard, Miss Mary Lewis and Mr. Wm. Seibrasse.

For several years there was no well at the school so the janitor had to carry water from a quarter to half a mile. He earned his wage of four dollars per month for lighting the fires and cleaning the school.

For several years joint picnics were held by Imrie and Holly Springs districts on the Ted Street farm north of Styal. Home-made ice cream was a feature at some of these picnics. The children were allowed two free cones each. Later picnics were held at Imrie school and at Styal Hall.

In the fall of 1926 the whole family moved to Bill Hoople's camp south of Leaman. Annie ran the cookhouse and was paid one dollar a day per man. Lorne skidded logs, freighted in supplies and worked at the mill. For a few months in the fall of 1927, they worked for Culkis and Nero near Leaman and then moved back to Bob Hadley's quarter south of Styal. Lorne and his friends, Fred Lee, Arthur and Erwin Fetzer logged near there that winter.

From 1928 - 1931 Lorne and Doug Profitt, in partnership, ran a sawmill for the Swanson Lumber Company of Edmonton. The mill was located on the southwest corner of Roy Hadley, Senior's farm. Winters were spent logging while the sawing was done in the summer. The poplar lumber was used to make coal-doors for box cars. Close to a million coal-doors piled south of the track at Styal,



School at Hoople's Camp Leaman - 1926 or 1927. (B.R.) (L—R) Teacher- Kenneth Alexander, Bob Hoople, Alfred Carlson, Kenneth Hoople, Frances Palmer, Emelia Carlson, (F—R) (L—R) Beatrice Hoople, Hedwig Carlson, Bill Palmer.

produced a spectacular blaze when they burned up one night.

The mill employed about twelve to fifteen men. Mrs. Bob Hadley and Annie Palmer provided the meals. Nathan Mitchell, sawyer, and his family, as well as Harry Brooks and his family, lived in the Palmer's yard.

Ethel was born at Mrs. Minore's place in June, 1928. Ethel had jaundice which Mrs. Minore treated by mixing soot from the bottom of the stove lid with water and feeding it to the baby with a teaspoon.

Mrs. Brooks and Mrs. Roy Hadley, Senior, were the midwives when Vernon was born at home in 1932. He arrived as a baseball game was in progress in the yard. Lorne was pleased to announce to the players that if they needed another pitcher, he had a new one.

Harold was born at home in April, 1934, with Mrs. Brooks as midwife. No doctor attended Vernon's or Harold's birth.

It seemed impossible to make a living from the farm at this time. Bob McGuire hauled a load of two-by-four lumber into Edmonton where it sold for six dollars a thousand board feet. The trucking charge was three dollars a thousand board feet. Lorne and Annie swallowed their pride for the sake of their children and asked the municipality for help. This was paid back by working on the roads. Eventually Lorne got a job with Eccles' Sawmill at Lobstick and walked two and a half miles morning and night. He worked eight hours and earned one dollar and twenty-five cents per day, and his dinner. In the winter of 1935-1936, he ran a logging camp north of Holly Springs for Eccles. Christmas gifts in 1935 were mitts knit by Annie, and black walnuts from an aunt in Ontario.

Gordon was born in the University Hospital in October, 1937. In the fall of 1939, Bill had been harvesting near Strome, Alberta, until he became sick and returned home. He seemed to recover quickly but Gordon, Harold, Ethel and Frances all



Logs for Palmer and Profitt sawmill on Lorne Palmer's place - 1929 or 1930.



Palmer and Profitt Sawmill 1929, Roland Thompson (with cant hook) Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Brooks walking by.

came down with diptheria. Gordon died and was buried in the Evansburg Cemetery, two years from the day he was brought home. Mr. Roy Hadley, Senior, made his casket and his wife made the outfit he was buried in. Only Annie, Lorne and Bill could go to the funeral as the family was in strict quarantine and not allowed to leave their yard. Frances had been sent to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton and treated in an isolation ward. The rest of the family were inoculated as were all the students at Imrie School. Dr. Chisholm brought food on his regular visits, and some neighbors came into the yard for short chats.

During the depression years Walter Williamson, a storekeeper in Wildwood, proved a friend in need. He was willing to take fence posts, coal doors, mine props, butter and eggs in trade for groceries.

Sunday afternoon entertainment for many of the young people of the Styal District was to go to the station when the train came in. Some would take the train to Wildwood or Evansburg and return on the next train for about twenty five cents. A favorite gathering place was the big sawdust pile formed by the mill. Twenty youngsters would gather with all manner of conveyances - toboggans (homemade), sleighs, scoop shovels and cardboard - to go coasting merrily down the sawdust pile.

Ten or twelve women in the Styal District would get together to make quilts one afternoon a week in the winter. There would be a draw among the quilters to determine who would get the finished quilt. Then a new one would be started.

During Annie's first winter with the Mitchells, these prairie women had a scare. During the week the women were home alone. One night the dog started to bark and when the door was opened, something ran into the room and scurried under the Winnipeg couch. Some of the children got down on their stomachs to peer under the couch and some climbed sacks of potatoes at the end of the couch, hoping they wouldn't see what it was. Mrs. Mitchell poked at it with the broom while Annie held the door open. It soon decided to get out and take its chances with the dog. When they described this wild animal to a neighbor, they were told it was probably a harmless muskrat.

Lorne and Annie were a bit more seriously frightened when Mrs. Blair's stray bull wandered into the yard. Lorne tried to chase him out of the yard and was in turn chased to the top of the barn. Annie made sure that Ethel and Frances were inside and told them to keep the door closed. Then she ran out with the broom to divert the bull. She got him headed for the road and then she made a dash for the house, only to find that Ethel had locked the door on the inside. A few words convinced her to open the door for her mother. The bull wandered into another yard and was shot. The neighbors helped butcher it, shared the meat and took a portion to Mrs. Blair.

In the spring of 1944 Lorne and Annie bought the White Cafe and Rooming House from Mrs.

Robert Young, Senior. Later Lorne purchased the British American Gas Station and Bulk Sales Agency from John Bjornstad. Lorne died in 1949 and is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery. In 1950 Annie sold the White Cafe and Rooming House to M. W. Yandt. Annie and Frances rented the United Church Manse to live in until 1957.

In 1951 Annie started the Ladies Clothing and Variety Shop in Tony Vaculchik's store. Later she moved her business into the Co-op Store. When the Co-op Store burned down in 1954, neighbors helped drag as much stock as possible out of the store. After the fire, the loss Annie felt most was losing some parts of a sweater she was knitting. After the fire Annie had a small building brought onto the lot south of the liquor store. She conducted business there until 1957 when a Muttart Home was constructed on the lot. This served as a home and a store for her and Frances.

The Evansburg Chamber of Commerce held two work bees headed by Tom Mitchell and Morris Manz, to lay the joists and sub-floor on which the Muttart Home was built.

As well as selling ladies' wear, Annie took orders and knit Siwash sweaters. She eventually knit more than one hundred of these bulky sweaters.



Jim Delano and Lorne Palmer 1948.



Lorne Palmer family - (Bill's Wedding - July, 1948)
(L—R) Harold, Bob, Frances, Lorne, Mrs. Palmer, Bill, Ethel, Vernon.

In 1973 Annie sold the store to Ed and Evie Bishop (who have since sold the building to the Gas Co-op). Annie and Frances bought Mike Hotra's house next to the arena. Annie continued to work for the Bishops one or two days a week. She celebrated her eightieth birthday with her family and a few friends on August 11, 1974. Although her health was declining, she continued to be active and made sure there was home-made bread on hand when she went into the University Hospital.

She died on October 18, 1974 and is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

Bill Palmer married Jean MacRae. They have one son, Don, and one daughter Susan, five grandchildren, all living in Smithers, B.C.

Bob Palmer married Alice Ross. They live in Evansburg.

Ethel Palmer married Alexander MacRae. Alexander died in 1963. Ethel worked as an operator for Alberta Government Telephones and since 1966 has been working for the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool. Her two sons are living in Edmonton.

Vernon Palmer married Ingrid Petersen. They have four daughters, one son, and three grandchildren in Smithers, B.C.

Frances' story appears separately.

Harold Palmer married Donna Gardner. They have four daughters, one son and two grandchildren living in Smithers, B.C.

Frances Palmer

by Alice Palmer

Frances was born in Saskatchewan and came to Styal with her parents when she was six years old. She attended Imrie School from grades one to nine. Money was scarce so Frances took the job as janitor at the school for a year. Then jobs came up further from home - at Bill Budd's lumber camp south of Wildwood, then housework at Niton, McKay and the Wildwood Hotel. From 1940 to 1942 Frances worked for a family in Edmonton. She returned to help at home and worked as cook or cook's helper in several lumber camps.

When her mother took over the White Cafe and Rooming House in Evansburg, Frances shared the cooking and housekeeping chores. She became famous for her good pies. When the cafe was sold, Frances cared for Mrs. Bell and kept house while Mr. Bell worked. Ill health forced her to give up this work. Frances next found employment with Alberta Government Telephones as an operator. The telephones became automatic in 1966. Frances was next employed in the office of the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool. This job terminated in 1973 when the cream department was closed out of the Evansburg plant. Since 1975 Frances has been the assistant matron at the Sunshine Lodge.



Palmer family (with exception of Harold) 1974. (L—R) Bill, Frances, Mrs. Palmer, Vernon, Ethel and Bob.

The Mitchell Family - A Resume of Remembrances

by Norman T. Mitchell

Father, Nathan K. Mitchell and Elfreda Mitchell both formerly of Pugwash, N.S. had two sons, myself and Elwin Robert both born there in 1917 and 1918.

For reasons of health in 1919, they moved west to Saskatchewan and farmed in the Glidden area for four years. During this time two more sons were born, Earle Trueman and Howard William.

While there we experienced living through a cyclone, so Dad decided to look further west in Alberta and in 1923 he filed on a homestead in Reno.

In November 1923, he took his family in a Model T Ford to Alberta. The road west of Edmonton was mainly a dirt road with some parts corduroy. It was very slow and rough.

The first year we lived in a log house owned by Bill Hadley of Styal while our first log house was being built on the homestead. At this time in this area most homes were built of logs as timber was plentiful. Most work was in logging and mills.

Also at this time in Alberta bed bugs were plentiful and my mother fought a continual war in this connection.

Finally we were able to move into our own house on the homestead. The bush was very heavy and took a lot of hard work clearing enough land for a garden, but when done, it really grew great vegetables. Of course the garden had to have a high fence as wild game was plentiful.

In these first years in Alberta, there were deer and moose also bear, partridge, prairie chicken and lots of rabbits. We always had plenty of wild meat. Wild fruit was also plentiful in those days and as our family was growing, we picked lots of it. There were many seasons our mother canned five hundred

or more quarts of wild fruit. Not having freezers or refrigerators, she also canned wild meat as well.

The hard part of living in this area at this time was mainly the roads. There just were none. I can remember seeing saddle horses stuck in mud and being pulled out.

Our Post Office in those days was Styal. It could take a day to go for mail and groceries by saddle horse.

Next a log barn was built for our cow, a few chickens and three horses, also a pig or two.

During the 1920's most entertainment was the neighborhood dance, at which the music was my father on a mouth organ and mother with an auto harp. My uncle, Lawrence Mitchell, was adept at making beer, so there was usually a keg of beer on hand for these parties. There was of course always a mash from the brew. This was usually fed to the pigs. It was always fun to watch as they can become quite tipsy.

In the summertime there were always picnics and sports events of several types.

During this period my father became a sawyer and millwright and was employed for several years by Bill Hoople, who was a major employer of loggers and mill hands.

Our first school was at Styal. My first teacher was a man. I do not remember his name but he kept good order and taught us all respect for a strap.

Those were good years. Our youngest brother Gerald was born at Styal. He had eczema and asthma from the age of two weeks so he has never been in good health.

In 1928 we moved to Entwistle, where we resided until 1931. It was here the greatest event of our family took place. The sixth child was born, Olive Isabel in 1930.



Mrs. Elfreda Mitchell in her 85th year.

At the start of the Depression, Dad was sawyer for Eccles at Styal and then for Fred Hansen at Wildwood.

My teacher in Entwistle was Miss Smith. I personally did well here. During this period, I was janitor for a time at this school. Also I had a paper route delivering the Edmonton Bulletin to one hundred customers. The Jasper Highway was going through and Herb Peets used to hire me to wash his gravel truck, so all in all I could realize somewhere near one hundred dollars or more per month at the age of twelve.

At this time we had an Anglican Minister in Entwistle, a Mr. Bullock who was also Scout Master. Churches were few and many services were held in schools or homes. Pianos and organs were scarce, so he used to take me with him, with our auto harp to accompany the hymns.

In 1930 Dad filed on another homestead in the Drayton Valley area and we moved to it in 1931. We lived there until 1939 when we moved to Vancouver Island.

Four of us saw service in World War II. Elwin in Scotland with forestry, and Earle and Howard on

the continent. Earle came back seriously injured. All four of us were in the army. My service was mainly in Nanaimo, B.C.

After the war most of us have been in building and construction. I was in Calgary building homes and superintending the building of nursing homes in Bonnyville, St. Paul, Mayerthorpe and others. I am now retired.

Nathan Mitchell passed away in 1967.

Elfreda Mitchell, now eighty-six is residing at a Lutheran Nursing Home in Victoria, B.C.

Elwin died in 1969.



Elfreda, Gerald and Nathan Mitchell.

Rudolf Svicenec

Rudolf Svicenec was born in 1899 in Bedovice, Czechoslovakia where he grew up and took his schooling. He also experienced some army life in World War One.

In 1919 he married Marie Zitkova who was born in 1895 in the village of Castolovice, Czechoslovakia. One daughter, Marie was born to them in 1920.



Mr. and Mrs. Svicenec - 1967.

He worked as a fireman in a leather-goods factory, as a brick layer, and at endless other jobs.

But finally his interest in going to Canada was fulfilled. Bidding his loved ones and friends farewell, Rudolf and his close friend left for Canada. They arrived in Halifax the 13th of May 1926. From there he went to Edmonton. The first job took him into the Athabasca area, where he worked as a farm hand, being shifted from one farmer to another. Dissatisfied with job and wages, he started to look around for something better. That opportunity presented itself sooner than he had figured. The C.N.R. was hiring men and Rudolf thought it would be quite fitting to get a job like that. He did! He was stationed at Styal in 1927. The station baggage room served the purpose of a home for the railroad men for sometime.

Shortly after, Rudolf acquired a homestead near the job and with some help, he soon began to build a dwelling in preparation for his family. Everything being in order he sent for his wife and daughter. Mrs. Svicenec and daughter, Marie, immigrated to Canada in 1928. The impact of the wilderness and unfamiliar surroundings was one of disappointment to Mrs. Svicenec and adjustment came very slowly. Having the Burian family as the closest neighbors helped to soften the blow of isolation.

As time passed, another neighbor, Mr. Wesley Tate, extended a kind gesture, in helping the family. Without hesitation a horse was provided for skidding logs for winter fuel and other uses. Another time a quarter of a beef was brought over by Mr. Tate in time of need, when Rudolf was laid up with rheumatic illness.

Meanwhile, young Marie attended the Imrie school, making new friends and learning the new language. She remembers the first day of attendance, dressed up in a pinafore which caused some amusement. The road was muddy, swampy, and over-grown with grass. It was impossible not to lose one's shoes. But life went on.

Two sons were born to Rudolf and Marie, Rudy in 1932 and Henry in 1933. They also attended the Imrie school.

Mr. Svicenec was stationed at Styal for a period of time. Then he was transferred to the coal branch line. The job kept him away from home for many years. He was transferred once more to his home district to work, until retirement in 1965. The youngest son, Henry, is now residing with his family on the home quarter with his parents. Rudy is employed and living in Slave Lake and daughter, Marie (Norkus), lives in Evansburg.

Henry Svicenec

Henry Svicenec was born in the Styal district in 1933, and went to the Imrie School. The school he went to consisted of one large room with a big pot-belly wood heater and two small cloak rooms, one for the boys and one for the girls.

Henry's first teacher was Miss Anderson, followed by Mrs. Hellekson and Mrs. Rogers. At peak times there were close to fifty children attending school, with only one teacher teaching all the grades. The road conditions were very poor, with mud holes in summer and snow in winter. Mostly horses, wagons or sleighs were used for transportation. The children walked to school and many walked through the bush and fields, making short

cuts as they had several miles to go. Henry had only one mile to walk. The entertainments at school were picnics, Christmas concerts, and ball games. Most of the teachers participated in these games.

The store and post office were two and a half miles away by road, but only a mile across country from Henry's home. Henry at fourteen, worked part-time at the Styal store which was owned by Hadley and Savage. He worked for twenty-five cents an hour which provided him with spending money.

As time went on Henry got more involved in farm work, as his father was working for the C.N.R. on the Coal Branch and it was too much work for his mother. So it was farm work and odd jobs close to home for Henry. Later, his father was transferred back to his home district.

Henry worked on the Department of Highways Bridge Crew. The winters were spent in bush work in the Edson area, and summers in trying to improve the farm.

In 1957, Henry married Bonita Spreen of Spreen's Flats, a District north of Edson. In 1959, he and his wife moved to Drayton Valley, where he worked at a Service and Bulk Station which he later managed. Meanwhile, he was still operating the farm which he had purchased from his parents. In 1960, a daughter Cathleen was born; and in 1963 a son, Fred.

Then, in 1965, Henry and his family moved to the farm where they live today.

Henry has worked in Northern Alberta for several winters in Oilfield Construction, and also in the High Arctic and has been trucking since 1976.

Dave Headon, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Headon Sr. moved to the Styal District with their family in 1939. They came from Villeneuve to live on the N.W.¼ 17-53-8-W 5th M. There were three boys, Dave, Neil and Jack;

and two girls Marie and Margaret. Dave married Rose Scharr. They farmed the N½ of 17-53-8-W5th M. and then moved to Wildwood. Neil married Sophie Myszychuk. They live in Seattle. Jack and Marie live in Edmonton. Margaret married Max Herzog. Their story is under Max Herzog.



Lunch time. (L—R) Burt Brooks, Nick Turzer, Max Herzog.



Olga and Harold Carlstrom - 1945.

The Carlstrom Family

by Lil Barnhart

Harold Carlstrom was born in 1899 in Vastergotland, Sweden. He was the second son in a family of ten, whose father worked as flour miller on the large estate of a Swedish land baron. Times were very hard for the poor, so at the age of twelve he began to earn his own living working on farms and doing odd jobs. Two years were spent in military training. Then he became a seaman for

four years on a merchant boat. This boat freighted cargo along the inland waterway through the Gota Canal between Stockholm and Gotenburg.

In 1923, an uncle who had immigrated to Canada, needed help to farm his land. He sent the family a ticket to America. After much soul searching, for various reasons Harold was the one that came, arriving via the SS Gripsholm in New York on July 1st. He then travelled by train to Erickson, Manitoba, where he worked for his uncle Nils Peterson for the next two years, in order to repay his fare to Canada. It was his intention to return to Sweden after he had made enough money to purchase "Ekhammar", the estate upon which his family lived and worked, in bondage as it were. But this turned out to be an impossible dream, even in the new world.

He joined a construction gang and worked at building elevators for grain companies across the western provinces, until an accident sent him to hospital back in Winnipeg. As he was unable to resume his former labor due to a permanent disability in one arm, he went into partnership with an immigrant baker from Stockholm. They established a coffee house and bakery in Winnipeg that they called the "Cafe Stockholm".

At this time he met Olga Gardin, who was employed at "Jampt Stugan", a cafe farther along on Logan Avenue and the course of his life again changed.

Olga had also emigrated from Sweden in 1923, with her parents, Pete and Ebba Gardin and a younger sister Bojan. They had settled west of Wildwood in the Northville area, but she had been persuaded to return back east to Winnipeg at the age of eighteen by a cousin who was also in the restaurant trade. Harold and Olga were married in 1930.

The depression took its toll of small businesses. But their ambition really lay in owning a farm of their own, so they decided to come west in 1931. They sold what they could and packed the rest of

their belongings into a Model T coupe. They and their new baby girl started off for Alberta. The trip took over a week to complete.

Nights were spent in a tent beside the gravel and dirt road. Several times it rained, and one night a stray dog came in and made off with their loaf of bread. Two or three times every day mother and daughter sat in the sun, or rain, as the case happened to be, and waited while papa patched a tire as there was no such thing as a spare. Finally they arrived at Junkins, as Wildwood was then known, and the Gardin farm.

For a few years they worked in lumber camps until they were able to buy their farm. The land they chose was NE 20-53-R8-W5, located a half mile south-east of Lobstick, a station on the Canadian Northern Railway between Wildwood and Styal on the present C.N.R. This station house was later purchased by Stan Ellis and dismantled. Some of the building materials were hauled by horses across the Carlstrom land by Adolph Ziegler, who was building a house at that time. This quarter section had been homesteaded by a Mr. Weaver and was later briefly occupied by the Carl Swansons, the Carlson brothers, the Bradleys and several others, including the Wesley Tate family after their home was destroyed by fire.

Farming through the years 1930 to 1970 saw many changes. The hard times gradually improved, especially through the war years it seemed. They had come west in the Model T but after that they could not afford gas at ten cents a gallon to drive it. Butter sold for fifteen cents per pound and eggs were ten cents a dozen. Eventually the Ford engine was used to power a wood saw.

Harold and Olga had three children who went to school at Imrie, a walking distance of one and a half miles (as the crow flies) through bush, swamp, muskeg and mud. It seemed most of the summer we wore rubbers on our feet. We wore moccasins in the winter. My teachers were Miss Maynard, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Hellekson, and Mrs. Rogers, all of whom had to walk to school just as far as we did.

was privileged to be among the first students to be "vanned" to Evansburg High School from points west as far as Northville. This first van was actually a wooden cab built on the back of a truck, owned and driven by Carl Kirk. It carried about twenty students. Evansburg High School at that time had two rooms. Mrs. Vera Platt was the principal, and Mr. Andrusiw was in charge of the teacher room. By 1948 we moved into the new addition with two more rooms.

My brother Ken took all the schooling he felt he needed at Imrie. Later our sister Linda, in more modern times when schools were centralized and Imrie closed, rode the school bus to Evansburg for twelve years, and later attended Gardener Business School in Edmonton.

Kenneth, who was the only son, now farms the same quarter and his mother makes her home there. Harold passed away in January, 1972. He is buried in the Ladies' Aid Cemetery, Wildwood.

Lillian, and my husband Floyd Barnhart, still live on the adjoining quarter of land which we purchased from Karl Miller who had homesteaded there in about 1913. Floyd was born north of Spruce Grove and the Barnhart family story is written up in the Spruce Grove and District history book. We have three children, Edward, Christine, and Roberta who also graduated from Evansburg High School. We spent four years in Drayton Valley while Floyd worked in the oil patch, and two years in Entwistle. We returned to the farm in 1963.

Edward later took Heavy Duty Technology at A.I.T. for two years. He has been with Alberta Power in Hay River, N.W.T. for the past ten years and seems to have become a dedicated Northerner. He married Betty Quinn of McGregor, Manitoba. They have a son, Timothy. Christine married Barry Johanson and lives in Evansburg with their children, Jay and Joy. And last but not least, Roberta married Rob Johnston, and lives in Kerrobert, Saskatchewan with three sons, Corey, Kevin and Kenneth.

My sister, Linda, married Henry Lambertus of Winnipeg in 1968. He tragically lost his life in a fire



The Barnhart family Lil, Betty, Ed, Chris and Barry, Robin and Bob and Floyd.

fifteen months later. After the birth of her daughter, April, she resumed her former employment with Alberta General Insurance for five years. She now lives with her new family, that of Westley Borthwick and son Scott, at Blackfalds.

It may be interesting to note that the Foley Trail passed through the Carlstrom and Barnhart present holdings and that Floyd's land may quite possibly be the only place where the trail has been undisturbed since it was last used during the construction of the railroad in 1910 - 1911. Though overgrown now, the original ruts can still be discerned.

The Fred Taggarts

by Rita Skogg

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Taggart were married in Kinmount, Ontario, in 1901. They lived in Lindsay, Ontario until 1929, when they came west and settled in Styal, Alberta. They lived in Styal until 1966, when they moved to White Rock, B.C.

Fred Taggart worked in the sawmills and did carpenter work. For many years, Mae Taggart was caretaker of the Styal Hall.

There were seven children in the family, George, Lavada, Ray, Rita, Kathleen, Laurea, and Caron.

Mr. Taggart passed away in 1972 and is buried in White Rock, B.C. Mrs. Taggart passed away in Vernon, B.C. and is buried there.

The Boswards

Ernest and Lucy Bosward came to Styal in May 1927 with the Stephens family from the Strathmore district.

They had been farming and decided to try homesteading. He was a World War I veteran and she was a retired school teacher who also taught music. With them came their niece Betty.

They lived in the buildings on the Purin homestead, one mile west of Styal. All summer and fall they skidded logs for their new home on SW-3-54-8-W5.

They went to Victoria, B.C. to spend the winter with relatives and decided not to return. An auction sale of all their possessions was held the next spring. Their grand piano was bought and eventually donated to a museum.

The land was later homesteaded by James Gladwin.

James and Clara Louise Gladwin

by Lester Gladwin

James Gladwin was born in England August 25, 1864. Clara Louise Gladwin was born in England May 27, 1861.

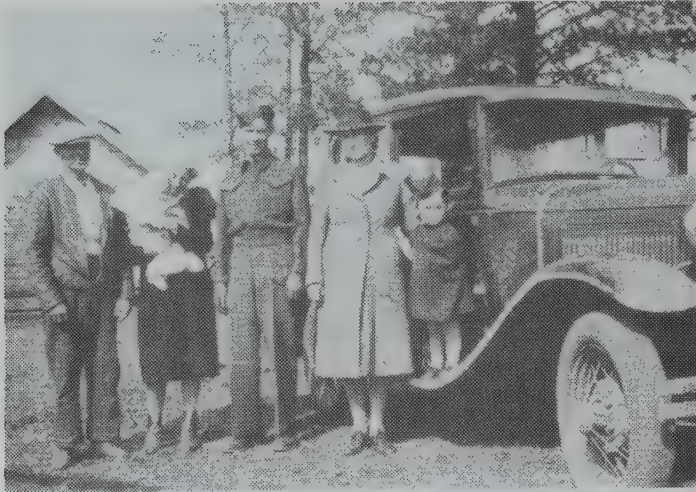
The James Gladwin family came from Sheffield, England in the early 1900's, probably 1903. They had one son Lewis.

James and his son worked in the mines for several years. They farmed in the Kitscoty area for a while and then moved to Edmonton.

In the early thirties they homesteaded in the Styal area on SW 3-54-8-W5.

They had many good times there. I, their grandson Lester (son of Lewis), spent many happy times with my grandparents at Styal.

When they could no longer keep farming they moved to Edmonton for their last years.



Fred and Mae Taggart (holding Carron) Gibby Ladouceur, Eva Ladouceur, Marlyn Thomsen.



Rod Clark, George Taggart, Ray Taggart.



Ray and Hilda (Wright) Hadley.



(L—R) Alice Faulkner (Mrs. Gladwin's sister) Clara Louise Gladwin, and James Gladwin.



James Gladwin home, 1942.

James Gladwin died in February, 1944 at the age of eighty years. Clara Louise Gladwin died December, 1950 at the age of eighty-nine. They lived in Styal for eight or nine years.

Mr. Gladwin painted with oils. Several examples of his work are scattered about the country.

The K. Norkus Family

Born in the year 1900 in Erzvilkas, Lithuania, Mr. Kleopas Norkus, a preparatory school student, departed from his homeland in 1928. Enticed by tales of riches and possessions easy to come by, he set out enroute to Canada. Upon landing in Edmonton that spring, after difficulty with the

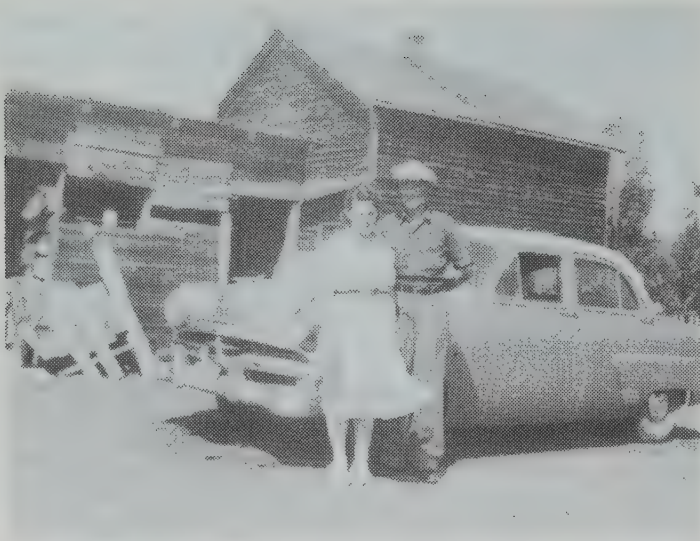
language and making connections, he was hustled away to his first job. This proved to be his most grueling experience.

In New Sarepta, land grubbers were needed. Indeed, this was the job. The food was poor, and the boss was reluctant to pay. But Mr. Norkus struggled on. After being taken advantage of because of the language barrier, he soon became disillusioned and often thought of home. Almost penniless, he was taken next to a relief camp The Golden West Road Construction Camp, in British Columbia. Many different jobs followed through the years. With mastery of the language he felt more confident. Then he landed a job as a coal miner in Mercoal, Alberta.

Marie Svicenec, who later became Mrs. Norkus, emigrated with her mother from Trebechovice pod orebem, Czechoslovakia in the year 1928. Marie, then a young school girl, settled with her parents on a homestead. A two-room shack had been hastily erected before their arrival by her father, who preceded them in 1926. Marie attended the Imrie country school during her first school years and enjoyed many festive occasions there.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Norkus made their first home in Mercoal, where Mr. Norkus was employed for many years. After the closing of the mine, the couple came to farm in the Styal district on a homestead previously owned by the well-known Ladouceur family. The Norkus children attended the Imrie school for a time. When the Imrie school closed it was the end of an era. They finished their schooling in Evansburg.

The family sold out in 1967. Their son, Frank, made his home in Prince George, British Columbia. The two daughters, Mrs. Evelyn Trowbridge and Mrs. Marion Gutsche, both live in Edmonton. Mr. Norkus, at the age of eighty one, and his wife, Marie, reside in Evansburg, Alberta. The old homestead was bought by Mr. Herman Knip and his family from St. Albert. Neighbors that were there then are few now; most of them are residing elsewhere.



Mary and Kelly Norkus (Original Ladouceur home in background)

Barkaskas Family

by Matilda Barkaskas

I, Matilda, was born in Yugoslavia on August 25, 1925, the oldest daughter of Joe and Amelia Horvat, and came to Canada in 1928 with my mother and younger brother to join my father, who had come to Canada in March of 1927. We lived on a farm at Bittern Lake that my father worked in partnership with another man. The men worked in the surrounding area building barns and houses for neighbors, while my mother cared for the cows and the farm as much as possible. My father went west to Wildwood to work every winter in Fred J. Hanson's lumber and tie camps.

In 1931, he bought a quarter of land from Mr. Hanson, south west of Wildwood and moved his family there in 1932. On leaving the farm at Bittern Lake, machinery and tools were divided equally between my father and his partner, and a box car was loaded at Camrose to bring our share to our new home near Wildwood. Included in this were "two cows, 2 sows, 14 piglets, one saddle pony, about 50 bags of oats, 20 bags of wheat and a full box of wheat for Byers Flour Mill to trade for flour to take with us in the box car" (from Diary of Joe Horvat).

There were three children by now and we all rode in the box car with my father and mother. During

the trip west to Wildwood, my father would milk the cows to give us warm milk to drink.

We went to Donahoo School which was three quarters of a mile from our farm, not too far to walk, but the roads were often in very poor shape. In winter there would be drifts of snow and in the spring, mud holes. My father would go for groceries with a saddle horse.

In 1947, I married Stanley Barkaskas and we moved to the Styal District, N.E. 15-53-8-W5th. We had four children. Margaret was born in 1948. She married Ron Ahlskog and they live at Wildwood with their daughter Susan. Beruta was born in 1950. She works at Banff. Lonny was born in 1951. He married Ruth McMurray of Calgary. They have four children. Lonny worked in construction, but had an accident, breaking both legs. Now he is a mechanic. Angie was born in 1953. She married Randy Relling of Entwistle. They live at Fairview, Alberta and have two sons.

My children received most of their education at Evansburg, travelling there by School Bus. Stan passed away in 1962, and is buried in Wildwood cemetery. I live on the home farm in the Styal District.



Matilda Barkaskas and granddaughter.

Brettnell Family

Mr. Irvine Brettnell came to the Lobstick area in the fall of 1934. He drove a team for Eccles from Gainford to their sawmill which was two miles south of Highway 16 on the Lobstick Road. Then he hauled logs to the mill and lumber to the railway at the Lobstick siding where Eccles had rows upon rows of lumber piled.

Mr. Brettnell was married to Hazel Tate in 1937, and he then started to farm. A son, Donald, and a daughter, Alvina, were born. In 1952, he lost his wife, Hazel. In 1955, he married Myrtle Tate.

Donald is in the construction business (Roe Construction) and is living at Edson. Alvina is a Legal Aid secretary living in Lethbridge.

Mr. Brettnell has three grandchildren. The eldest, Allan, graduated in 1980 and is in Revelstoke, B.C. working as a copytron technician.



Mrs. Helen Matheson.

Jim Matheson

Arthur and Helen Matheson

Mr. and Mrs. Matheson came to the Styal district in 1932. They homesteaded and lived on N.W. ¼ 22-53-8-W5th M. Mr. Matheson explored the possibilities of using moss for insulation purposes. They were a musical family, contributing much for the entertainment of the community. There were

two children, Jim and Jean. Mrs. Matheson passed away in 1939. Jim joined the Air Force and was killed in a plane crash overseas. Jean was a nurse and worked in Edmonton and Winnipeg. She lives with her husband and family in Des Moines, Iowa.



Jean Matheson

The Mike Mandriak Family

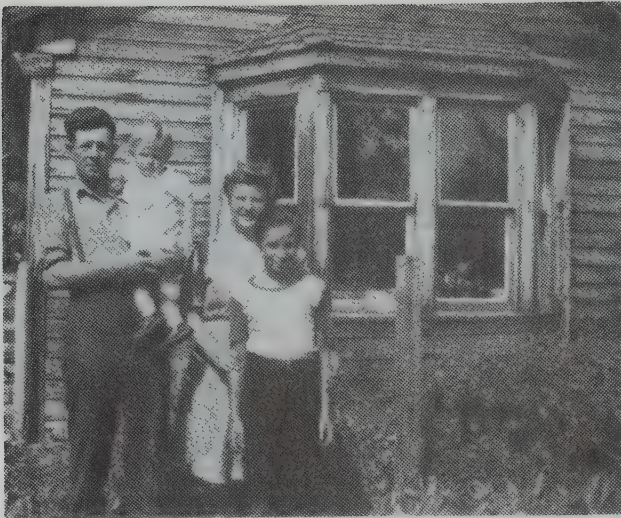
by Katie Mandriak

Mike was born in Poland in 1903. He immigrated to Canada in 1927. He worked on a farm for Crozier Bros, until 1934 when he married me, Katie Stasiuk at Namao. We bought a farm from Walter Burian in the Styal district.

There were many hardships during those early years. We lived in a one-room shack for the first year. Mike walked two miles to work in a lumber camp for forty cents a day. This was during the depression and everyone was struggling to get by.

We milked cows and shipped cream for a living. He spent some winters working in lumber camps or on the railroad, while I held down the fort at home looking after the animals.

Horses played a big part in the farm work until 1952 when Mike bought a small tractor. After that he could be seen driving around on his John Deere. When you could not see him you could still hear him.



Mike and Katie Mandriak with Iris and Roger.



Mike Mandriak and his work horses.

For amusement we used to gather at the school house for dances and Christmas concerts until the community hall was built around 1938. Needless to say we walked the three miles packing the little ones on our backs or hitching up the horse and buggy for the trip.

We had two children, Roger and Iris. They both went to school in the one-room Imrie schoolhouse, walking a mile to and from school. Iris was often packed by a doting father who thought the snow was just too deep or the road too muddy. Many winter school days were spent with desks in a semicircle around the pot-bellied stove with a big pot of soup simmering. Each child brought his contribution for the day whether it be a potato, a couple of carrots or an onion.

After attending school in Evansburg, Roger joined the Air Force. Then he worked on the DEW

Line for a few years. At present he is manager for G.T.E. Sylvania and lives in the Philippines with his wife Annie and their four children Melanie, Tony, Ann, and Jerry.

When Iris finished school she worked in the Royal Bank at Evansburg for a year and a half. Then she married Bob Curd. They now live in Drayton Valley with their two girls Sherry and Tammy.

We retired in 1972 and sold the farm. We moved to Drayton Valley where we are involved with the Senior Citizens' club.

Mike has been an avid bowler for eight years and has a collection of trophies to prove it. For myself I prefer the weekly card parties.

There were many happy times spent on the farm despite the hard work. Many are the evenings when friends gathered for a visit or card game with the wood stove crackling in the corner. There is nothing quite like the sound of a threshing machine in the crisp morning air, or the lowing cattle demanding attention, or the roosters crowing in the early morn.

These, plus the many dear friends we left behind, are the things we missed when we moved to Drayton Valley. We have an abundance of memories of happy times spent on the farm. Funny how the hard times don't seem so bad when we remember the good ones!

The Hunters

by Helen (Hunter) Lavender

Mildred and Ira Hunter moved from Maisfield, (near Swift Current), Saskatchewan, to Wildwood, Alberta, in the autumn of 1934, where Ira was to work in a sawmill. Ira was a brother to Eva Wallace who, with husband Lex and family, farmed north of Wildwood. His brother, Hosea Hunter, also farmed nearby.

Ira and Mildred left their dried-out Saskatchewan homestead about the first of October with their two

children, Kenneth, one and a half years old, and Helen, three weeks old, and Mildred's brother, Si Miners, who drove the freight wagon which contained all their earthly belongings.

Their home-on-the-road was Ira's best granary mounted on a Bennett Buggy. A spare mare and her colt, a cow and her calf, and the family dog followed the wagon. The chickens were in a crate attached to the back of the granary and cackled and laid eggs faithfully on their way to the Alberta bush.

Ira skidded logs that winter, while Mildred served as camp cook. Their cow helped supply milk, their chickens supplied eggs to feed the loggers, and three of their horses were used by others in the mill. The family came out one dollar and twenty-five cents in the clear when all costs and contributions were evaluated in the spring.

That spring, the family settled down to farm south of Styal on the quarter section west of Jim Hopkin's place through the bush and one mile north of Albert Phillip's place. Mildred was known far and wide for the bountiful produce of her garden, while Ira was a neighborhood blacksmith who shod horses and sharpened plowshares for his neighbors.

In the ten years the Hunter family lived at Styal, they had three more children - Ilene, Keiver and Gordon (another child Anita Dawn was born nine years later at Coronation). The four eldest attended Imrie School under the wise guidance of Mrs. Hellekson and later Mrs. Jean Rogers.

Ira spent some of his time and energy the first few summers helping to build the corduroy part of the road past Imrie School as payment for taxes. Both were involved during winters in local whist parties and Mildred took part in local productions of two plays. As well, she was known on occasion to recite poems such as "The Galvanized Washing Tub" and "Sleeping at the Foot of the Bed".

Along with Wes Tate, Ira worked in the mill south of the Phillip's place and hauled coal-doors to

the station during several winters. One of my fondest memories is of sitting on Wes's knee listening to Mom and Wes sing spirituals and hymns while my parents washed and dried supper dishes.

The nearest neighbors to the south were Mrs. Blair and Jim Sweeney, both of whom we loved dearly. Mrs. Blair had difficulty with the latch of our garden gate, so we kids raced to undo it for her when she came to tea. We received a nickel and a big hug for the effort.

After we got a radio, Jim came down to our house to hear the ten p.m. news on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights. I lay awake hundreds of nights listening to him and my parents visit until news time. But after the news, my patience in fighting off the sandman was always rewarded. I would hear Jim clear his throat and say in mock gruffness, "I wish you folks would go to bed so I could go home". I would drop off to sleep immediately.

In 1943, after a winter of being crippled with rheumatism, Ira went to Coronation to work for the summer and fall on a farm at Silver Heights. The next spring the family left Styal with the same Bennett Buggy which had brought them there, (sans granary) loaded with our belongings and pulled by a 1930 Chevrolet Sedan. We arrived in Coronation on Good Friday.



Mike Mandriak, Jim Reid, Ira Hunter, Harold Carlstrom sawing firewood.

The Hunters lived at Silver Heights and Kessler and then Hughenden, where Ira now lives in the family home. Mildred died in 1977 after a short illness and is buried in Hughenden cemetery. Kenneth died in 1958 and Gordon in 1981. Helen (Lavender) lives at Sherwood Park, Ilene (Wegenast) lives at Galahad, Keiver lives at Hughenden and Dawn (Bargholz) lives at Brownfield, Alberta.

The Edmonds Family

by Laurine (Edmonds) Purcell

Donald Harold Edmonds with his wife Ethel, and Ray Kenneth Edmonds and his wife, Frances, together with their father, W.W. Edmonds, moved from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to a farm two and one half miles west of Evansburg in 1932. They had formerly been northern Alberta pioneers. They farmed in the Styal area for ten years and moved away in 1942.

W.W. Edmonds passed away while the family lived there. He is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

Donald and Ethel had four children. Laurine (the writer) and her husband Bob Purcell, are retired and live in Riviere Qui Barre, Alberta, on an acreage which is part of their daughter Roberta's farm. Besides Roberta, they have a daughter, Maureen.

Hazel married Sandy Armstrong of Drumheller. Sandy took army training but did not see service. They live in Victoria and have three daughters, Barbara, Sandra and Maureen.

Gladys went to High School in Evansburg and then married Hall Fitzgerald of Entwistle. They have six children, Ronald, Allen, Dianne, Terry and Teresa (twins) and Robin. Hall died in 1980. Gladys lives in Osoyoos, B.C.

Vernon went to school in Evansburg. During the war he served in the Navy. He saw service in Hong Kong, the middle east and the far east. He sailed on the HMCS Ontario. He married Vera Herbert of



Edmonds Family

(L—R) Laurine with Bobby, Hazel with Barbara and Mrs. D. H. Edmonds.

Edmonton. They still reside in Edmonton and have five children, Donald, Gay, Gary, Verna and Betty Anne.

Ethel died in 1966 in Kelowna, B.C. Donald died in 1972 while living in Edmonton with Vernon.

R.K. Edmonds was married a second time to Stella Kimball of Reno district. They have one son, Harvey, who lives in Kamloops, B.C. R.K. died in 1970.

Mrs. Gertrude Miners and sons, Gordon and Howard

by F. and A. Palmer

The Miners came from Val Marie, Saskatchewan to settle on the Blair quarter in Styal. They bought Holly (Sleep) Fitzgerald's house and had it moved by horses and wagons onto their land. Gertrude was a good cook and well remembered for her hearty laugh.

Gordon and Howard worked in lumber camps until they joined up in World War Two.

Gertrude moved out to Vancouver in 1943. Howard married Vivian Brooks in 1944. They lived in Evansburg for a few years and then moved to Edmonton.

The Jendrick Story

by Kay Jendrick

In October of 1948 we, Louie and Kay Jendrick moved from Chisholm Mills, Alberta, with our four children Dylis, Greta, William and David. We bought the L. Monty farm west of Evansburg and half a mile south of Highway 16.

Here we first started farming with nothing but garden tools and some household furniture. We were going to farm. We started with two cows we bought at Monty's sale.

The first few years we found it hard. Louie worked out in winter while I took care of the cattle. I sawed wood by hand to keep the wood stoves burning all night and the children warm.

We purchased a Ford tractor which we used for transportation for three or four years until we got our first second-hand truck.

In the early years we grew grain which I learned to stook. At haying time, all our hay was cut and raked with a team of horses. It was forked onto racks by hand and then hauled to the yard to be stacked in large stacks.

Louie would get eczema on his hands and face from the dust. The times he had to go to the hospital were the times I had to harness horses and rake hay. I'd never done that in my life before. I had to stack hay into small mows until Louie came home. Then we'd make stacks.

I had cows to milk as this was our living. We had fifteen or seventeen cows at one time. The children would help when or where they could.

Over the years we got balers and bigger machinery. Two tractors made work easier.

Later we went into beef cattle. Our herd was over sixty head at the time of our sale in 1973. We went from grain farming to making hay for beef cattle - no more stooking and threshing.



Louis Jendrick and Kay's Dad helping to stack greenfeed.

When we first moved to the farm, only Dylis went to Imrie School. There were six or seven students then attending. After four years the school children were bussed into Evansburg. The school building was put up for tender. We bought it, moved it and remodelled it into a nice home.

The two girls and William finished their schooling and went to Edmonton to work.

In 1960 we had another son, Leslie.

David ended his education and went north on a construction job.

With help all gone and Louie's health failing, we decided to give up farming. Leslie was in Grade seven at school.

We sold the farm and moved to Edmonton.

Louie passed away February 10th, 1981.

Leslie is at home.

David married Diane Riehl. They have three children, two boys and one girl. They live at Wildwood.

William married Pat Miller. They had one son. He separated and then married Carol Raggo. They have one girl and live at Hythe, Alberta.



Jendrick hay stacks - all manual labor. David and William in the foreground.

Greta married Eddie Pitruniak. They have one son and live at Spruce Grove.

Dylis married Wally McDonald. They had two girls and one boy. They separated. Later she married Rod Menzies and separated. She then married Wayne Colton. They live at Spruce Grove.

We enjoyed our twenty-five years at Evansburg, Wildwood and district.

Steve and Ann Matwie

Steve and Ann Matwie moved from Edmonton with their two children, Edward, age three and Judy age one, to the Albert Phillips farm on April 8, 1948. After paying the man who had brought them, all Steve had left was three dollars to start their new life. This meant borrowing machinery from the neighbors and going away from home to work to make ends meet. The children had to walk to school (Imrie School) and sometimes the roads were nothing but mud.

Things were tough, but there was always time to visit the neighbors by horse and buggy for a good game of cards.

During the twenty-five years that the Matwies lived in the area, they saw many changes. The roads improved and the kids were bussed to Evansburg. Electricity came and then the telephone.

On February 15, 1973, Steve and Ann left the farm and moved to Edmonton where they still



Steve and Ann Matwie with Judy and Edward - 1956.

reside. Edward and his wife, Ellen, have two children, Tracy and Jason, and reside in the Carvel Corner area. Judy married Sam Antkow from the Reno district, and resides there with their three children, Pamela, Trevor and Treena.

Sergai and Domnika Zinchuk

by Judy Antkow

Sergai Zinchuk was born in 1895 in the West Ukraine. In 1928 he immigrated to Canada, leaving behind his wife and three children. During the following years, Sergai worked as a farm hand in Saskatchewan and as a worker on a power plant near Calgary.

In 1934, Sergai took up a homestead in the Chip Lake area. His wife, Domnika, and two of their three children, Ann and Anthony, arrived in 1938. Peter, who was ill, was not allowed to come. In 1942, Walter, another son, was born. During these years, Sergai worked in lumber camps.

In 1949, Sergai, Domnika and Walter moved to the Styal area one and a half miles south of Highway 16. At this time they were only one mile away from their daughter Ann who was married to Steve Matwie and who had moved here two years earlier.



Sergai and Domnika Zinchuk.

While living here, Sergai worked on the railroad, and did not do much farming.

In 1966, due to health reasons, Sergai sold his farm and moved to Edmonton, where he resided until his passing in 1970 at the age of seventy-five. Domnika passed away in 1981 at the age of eighty-two.

Ann and Steve presently live in Edmonton. Their children, Edward and Judy, are married and have families.

Anthony is married and living in St. Albert, where he is employed by the city. They have four children, Terry, Edward, Mary Ann and John.

Peter never came to Canada and is now deceased.

Walter is presently living in Edmonton.

The Hergotts

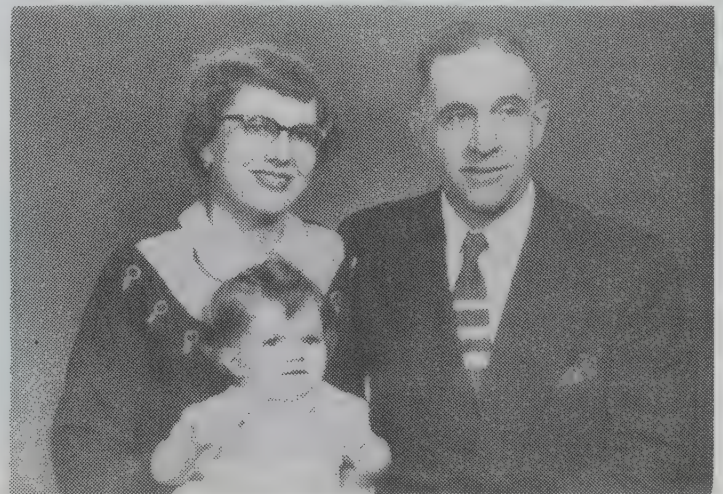
by Justine Hergott

We, the Hergotts, bought the Styal Store from the Collingridges in November, 1952. At that time Calgary Power did not serve rural areas, but this store had two light plants. We felt very modern having our own electricity and hot and cold running water. The store was compact with a warehouse at the back of it. At the far end was the post office and an entrance which led to the living quarters. We had the only telephone in the vicinity, so we

sometimes had messages to deliver. Our house consisted of kitchen, dining room, living room, four bedrooms and a bathroom, all on the ground floor, so we were very comfortable. My aunt, Mrs. Clara Ecker, stayed with us the first few years, and was our housekeeper; a very superb one she was! The basement was huge as it was under the whole house, store and warehouse. It housed the light plants, served as a two-car garage, held two coal and wood furnaces, and was a storage room as well as a place to do the laundry.

We had customers of many different nationalities and cultures, and how we treasured these people! Our motto was honesty; we trusted everyone and soon won confidence likewise. Some travelled to the store on foot or with horses, others with tractors or trucks. Farming was just in its initial stages.

The mail came in by train on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and it was Cyril's job to meet the train to dispatch and collect the mail. For this he was given six dollars and sixty seven cents a month. I was the postmistress, earning about sixty dollars a month. Cyril usually carried the mail on foot except when there were the Simpsons and Eatons catalogues, then he would take the car. This was the procedure until late in 1954 when we were asked to sign an affidavit stating we were to have a fully insured vehicle, be bonded by two different parties, that Cyril leave the postoffice three minutes before train time and be back within a certain time limit. Of course this was rather an insult to us. Cyril refused to sign without receiving a raise. He asked for ten dollars per month, and he got it. Henry



Justine, Cyril and Katherine Hergott.

Schroder and Bill Brenenstuhl signed the affidavit without hesitation.

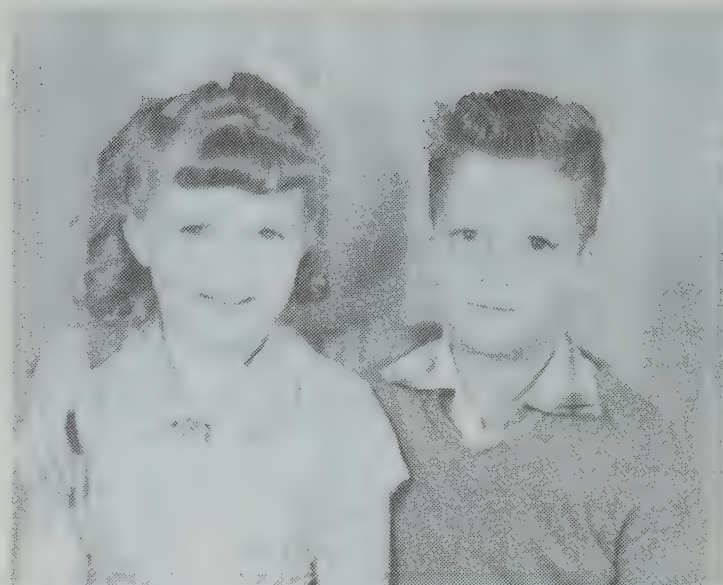
Mrs. Gladys Headon was our store helper, and what a gem and godsend she was. She would keep the store on Wednesday mornings when we would make our weekly trips to the Edmonton wholesales. George Young, who was reliable and honest, did the hauling for fifty cents per cwt.

On February 22, 1954, we were blessed with a baby daughter, Katherine Mary, and on October 18, 1957, we adopted Peter John, who was three and one half years old. Of course we had the usual birthday parties for the children, and Debbie Brooks and the two Pitruniaks were always included.

At Christmas time the concerts put on by the Imrie and Holly Springs schools were always an enjoyable source of entertainment, but in the latter years these students were vanned to Evansburg. Holly Springs school then became a Community Centre where many happy events took place.

One memorable episode at Holly Springs was after we had Peter only two months. At the Christmas concert Peter was very brave as long as he was sitting on his dad's knee until Santa called his name. He then crawled down under the bench, and Cyril was trying to pull him up, but as Nina Chwedoruk was sitting in front of us, Peter grabbed her legs and hung on for dear life. Finally Katherine went up to Santa to retrieve his bag, and then Peter let go of Nina. Fortunately he outgrew his timidity, and I would like to mention what a beautiful speech he gave right off the cuff at Katherine's wedding. Many said it was the best of all!

A short time later there were more changes. The mail was delivered and dispatched daily at midnight except on Saturdays, by truck. Cyril lost his job of meeting the train without shedding any tears. Some of the people were beginning to get telephones, too, and much to our surprise, a miniature switchboard was brought to our store for us to operate.



Katherine and Peter Hergott six years old in 1960.



The Hergott house at Styal.

In 1956 Aunt Clara left and in the course of time we had a couple of girls who helped in the house, namely Mary Bura and Mary Horvat. Margaret Pitruniak helped a bit in the store, mainly to gain experience.

In 1957 I did substitute teaching in Wildwood, and later in Evansburg. In 1959 - 1960 I taught music on Fridays at the school in Evansburg. In 1960 - 1961 I taught full time in Evansburg, music to the elementary grades and remedial reading to twelve pupils, ranging from grades 1 to 6. This I found very enjoyable and rewarding. We had a nice rhythm band. Katherine attended school in Evansburg for two years, and Peter one year.

Our business grew; we replaced the five hundred gallon purple gas tank by a two thousand gallon size, the coal and wood furnaces by propane and

our light plants gave way to Calgary Power. That was quite a relief as the noisy motors were eliminated.

We can honestly say our happiest years were spent at Styal. But there were sad times too, one of them being Hilda Roberts' death. One of the liveliest times was when we drove Nick Bura and his bride on their wedding day. I will never forget that beautiful fast music the orchestra was playing when we drove into Pete Stepaniuk's yard. They had an outdoor stage built for the band. Another wonderful time to remember was the going-away party put on for us in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schroder. August Feldberg gave such a touching presentation. The lovely lamp still adorns our living room, serving as a constant reminder of you wonderful folks. I wondered then, in July 1961, why we should leave such a nice and friendly neighborhood.

Space does not permit my mentioning all the kind and thoughtful deeds shown us, such as gifts of turkeys and chickens for Christmas etc. Everyone was great, and it is a pity I can not express our appreciation to each one of you individually.

Down on the Farm

*Down on the farm, 'bout half-past four,
I slip on my pants and sneak out the door;
Out of the yard I run like the dickens
To milk ten cows and feed the chickens,
Clean out the barn, curry Nancy and Jiggs,
Separate the cream and slop all the pigs;
Work two hours, then eat like a Turk,
And, by heck, I'm ready for a full 'zy's work.
Then I grease the wagon and put on the rack.
Throw a jug of water in an old grain stack,
Hitch up the horses, hustle down the lane,
Got to get the hay in, it looks like rain.
Cattle on a rampage and cows in the corn!
Look over yonder — sure as you're born,
Heaving like I'm windbroke, we clear thru,
Set down a minute, wondering what to do;
Get back to the horses, then for recompense,
Nancy gets straddle of the barbed — wire fence.
Joints all aching an' muscles in a jerk,
I'm fit as a fiddle for a full day's work.
Work all summer, till winter is nigh,
Then figure up the books and heave a big sigh.
Worked all year, didn't make a thing;
Got less cash than I had last spring.
Now, some people tell us there ain't no hell,
But they never farmed, so they can't tell.
When spring comes 'round, I take another chance,
While the fringe grows longer on my old grey pants,
Give my 'spenders a hitch, my belt another jerk,
And, by heck, I'm ready for a full year's work.*

Taken from a scrapbook of the 'thirties.' — M.S., Alta.



Palmer and Profitt Sawmill

Not To Be Forgotten

The following is a list of former residents for whom, for various reasons, we have been unable to obtain a family history. Some may have been missed and for this we apologize.

The Committee

Adolph and William Benesch

Adolph Benesch filed on the homestead NW¼ 19-53-8-W of 5th Meridian in 1913. Later William Benesch owned and farmed the NE-19-53-9-W5th.

Edward Biswanger

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Biswanger came to the Styal District in 1913. They lived on S.E.¼ 21-53-8-W5th. Mr. Biswanger had been a lawyer in Germany, but he did not practice law in Canada. He worked in the mine in Evansburg and Mrs. Biswanger frequently boarded the local school teacher. He passed away in 1934, and Mrs. Biswanger moved away from Styal.

Edgar Blackmore

Mr. E. Blackmore and his two sons lived on NE¼ 18-53-8-W5th Meridian. They came to the district in 1928.

Richard Blank

The Richard Blank family came to the Styal District in 1913. They lived on NW½ 8-53-8-W5th M.

John Broziuk

Mr. and Mrs. Broziuk lived on the S½ of NE 9-53-8-W5th. They had one daughter Sonja. She married Pete Malanchuk and now resides in Wildwood.

Walter Burian

Walter lived with his family on the SW¼-21-53-8-W5th. He married Amanda George and they moved to SE¼ 26-53-8-W5th on Highway 16A. They had one son and one daughter. Walter and his son Tommy farm near Westlock.

Claude Corbett

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Corbett and their family came to the Styal District in 1934 and lived on the Billy Zeigler quarter. The children attended Imrie School, and the family were active in community affairs. Later they moved to British Columbia.

Chesel Hadley

Chesel Hadley was a son of Robert Hadley. He and his wife lived on SE¼ 3-53-8-W5th M. They had one daughter.

Emil Richard Heim

Mr. and Mrs. Heim came from Germany in 1914. They lived on SE¼ 10-53-8-W5th M. They had two sons, Alfred and Helmut.

Arthur Holman

Art Holman came to Styal District in 1946 and lived on NE¼ 11-53-8-W5th M. He had married Marjorie Court and they had two daughters, Donna and Patricia; and two sons Alan and Bruce. Later they moved to B.C. where two more daughters were born to them.

Herbert Kile

Herb Kile worked on the railroad from 1923 to 1926. He and his wife lived in the Styal station. He was transferred to the coal dock in Entwistle.

Andrew Kuchka

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Kuchka lived on SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 23-53-8-W5th M. They had two sons Nick and Mike. Mr. and Mrs. Kuchka are deceased. Nick and Mike attended Imrie and Evansburg schools.

Frank Makar

Frank Makar lived on part of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 22-53-8-W5th. He was killed in a tractor accident on Highway 16A.

James Minore

Jim and Edith (Hadley) Minore came from Ontario. Jim worked on the railroad in the Styal area, and they lived in the Styal station for a few years. They had three daughters and one son. Later they moved to SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 23-53-8-W5th M.

Julius Muller

Julius Muller lived on NE 4-53-8-W 5th M, the present Archie Johnson place. He came in 1929. The Muller children attended Imrie school.

George Nelson

Mr. and Mrs. George Nelson and their daughter Lorna moved to the Styal District in about 1935. They bought the Woods homestead, SW 27-53-8-W5th M. Mrs. Nelson read teacups.

Fred Phillips

The Fred Phillips family lived on SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 9-53-8-W5th M. They came to the area in 1921. The Phillips children attended Imrie School.

William Roberts

Bill Roberts married Hilda Nordtorp. Hilda taught in Imrie School. Bill worked for R.S. Hadley for many years, and purchased land from R.S. Hadley, parts of Section 28-53-8-W5th M. Mrs. Roberts passed away in about 1958. Bill is retired and living in Victoria, B.C.

Eric Savage

Eric Savage came from Ontario. He married Clara Hadley and managed the Hadley and Savage Store at Styal. Eric and Clara had one daughter Dora and one son Bruce. Later they returned to Ontario.

William Shatzko

Mr. and Mrs. William Shatzko lived on the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE-9-53-8-W-5th Meridian. They had two daughters and one son. The family attended Imrie and Evansburg Schools.

Karl Schlecker

Karl Schlecker came to the Styal District in 1916. He filed on the S.E.15-53-8-W5th M. He operated sawmills giving local men employment. His quarter was sold to Peter Stepaniuk in 1927.

Martin Suta

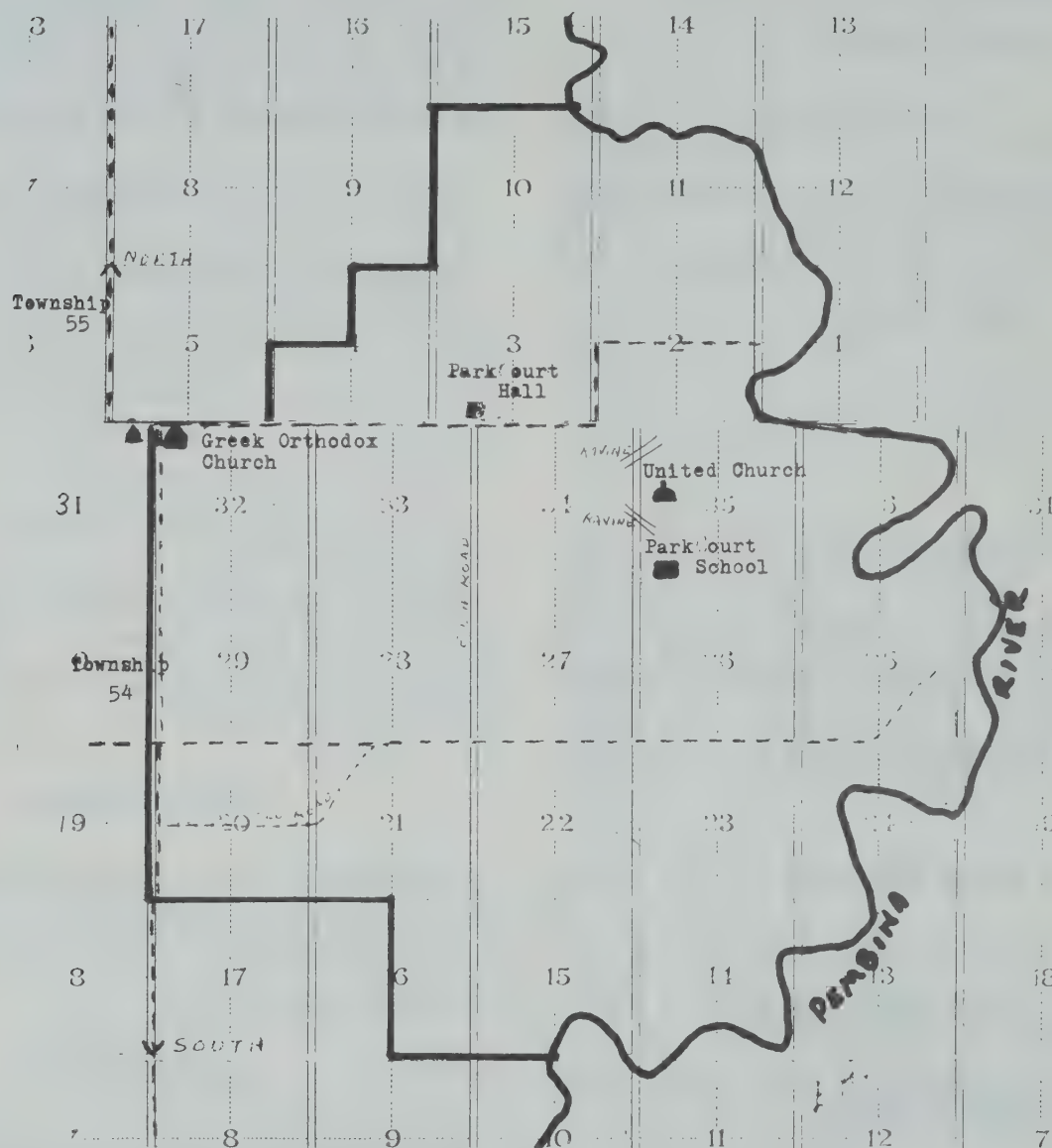
Martin Suta filed on N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12-53-8-W5th M. He married Elisha Janzewski and had one son and five daughters. Martin worked in the mine at Evansburg.

Herman Weaver

Herman Weaver was one of the first settlers in the Styal District. He filed on and lived on N.E. 20-53-8-W5th M.

PARK COURT

Range 7 West of 5th Meridian



Map of Park Court District



Field of Oat stooks.

Park Court District

by Alice Grant

The first settlers came to the area in 1907. Then more and more settlers came in the following years.

The area was named Park Court by two ladies, Mrs. Bigland and Mrs. Bierman, Sr. They found the country reminded them of the parks and court grounds of their homelands. The Post Office was opened in 1910 with the mail being carried by Arthur Wolff, to the home of C.J. Lemke who was postmaster until 1912. It was then moved to Knights, later to Biglands, then to M. Youngs. Mail carriers then were Gilbert and later Bertram Greenwood.

Park Court was strictly a mixed farming area. In the early days there was a family per quarter, but the farms soon enlarged. Some left looking for greener pastures, and others joined the armed forces.

In 1933 a Farmer's Community Club was formed and the community hall was built. It was all done with volunteer labor by the local men.

Raffles and auctions were held to raise funds for material. The hall has been well kept up and is still in regular use after forty-eight years.

Park Court has three churches - United, Ukrainian Catholic and the Ukrainian Baptist.

In August, 1936, tragedy hit the district on a Sunday afternoon when three local boys were drowned in the Pembina River. They were Karl Horz, Edward Fausak and Helmut Grapentin.

In 1951 the junior ladies of the district formed a club called the Gay Gatherers. They offered much assistance in the upkeep of the hall. They are still active and known as the Park Court Farmerettes.

The district was also active in 4-H work.

Park Court Hall

by Hazel Fausak

This monologue was given on the occasion of the forty-second anniversary of the opening of the Park Court Farmers Community Hall. The speaker was behind a curtain, unseen by the audience.

Good Evening, Folks. This is your hall speaking. Please be patient with me, but we halls are not accustomed to making speeches - and, you know, this may be the only time in your life that you will ever hear the voice of a hall.

I know that, to the people who have worked with me, I am a very real part of the life of Park Court, and I want to thank you for making tonight possible.

You know, in the early days of Park Court, this was the "feudingest" place you could find. The Yankees didn't like the English; the English wouldn't sit with the Germans; the Germans wouldn't eat with the Ukrainians; the Liberals wouldn't dance with the Tories - and neither one would dance with the UFA. - And all vice versa!

In about 1932, a group of men decided to do something about this miserable situation and I was conceived with the idea that a hall that belonged to everyone would knit the community together. The Farmers' Community Club was formed, and by the use of brilliant diplomacy, some of every group joined. Since at that time money was an almost unknown commodity, it took many months of cooperation through work and donations before I was born with the laying of the cornerstone. I was raised by more donations and labor. My debut was in March, 1934, and, oh, what a gala affair that was! My walls fairly burst with pride. The huge crowd danced until dawn, and you could have no idea how good it makes a hall feel to be able to be a part of the pleasure of so many people. I can hear them yet! - foxtrots and two-steps, the schottisches, the heel-and-toe, and the beautiful waltz quadrille.

I was a busy place, then, with dances, pie socials and box socials - and even three-act plays. There were lots of young people, short of cash, but who enjoyed entertaining themselves, and I was lucky to be here to help them. A local orchestra, the Horz Brothers, supplied the music for most of these dos - often playing all evening and on into the morning for fifty cents each.

How well I remember the younger girls, hiding and giggling in the cloakroom afraid that someone might ask them to dance - or worse yet, someone might not! And the younger boys would hover by the door, trying to muster up enough courage to make the long trek across the hall to ask a girl to dance. What if she refused and they had to make the long trek back again and face their snickering friends! My heart went out to all of them.

Besides the life inside, there was a world of action outdoors. Since "kick-a-poo" joy juice manufactured by local experts was in ample supply, there was a constant hide-and-seek game going on with the men hiding and the boys seeking. The terrain within one-half mile radius of me, I am sure, is the most explored uncharted region in western Canada. Every bush, culvert, crevice, bank and knoll is indelibly stamped on the memory of every boy who played the game. Once in a while the old "joy juice" was not so joyful - resulting in fisticuffs, but, fortunately, no serious trouble occurred.

Those were the days of the sundown frocks, hose rolled below the knee, scorched hair and laced rubber shoes when 35 or 40 degrees below and no transportation was no excuse to miss a dance. A four or five mile hike before the dance only made it more worthwhile and, hopefully, the dance would produce a ride home. I welcomed crowds from Stanger, Rochfort Bridge, Holly Springs and Evansburg.

But into each life some rain must fall. In August, 1936, three of Park Court's finest were tragically lost. They had helped to build me, played and danced on my floor. I saw them carried in and out for the last time. My heart ached for the grieving community. I was thankful to be of service when they

needed me.

The war years were lean years for me, as for everyone. A few faithful friends kept me alive. The Ladies' Guild did its job for the community services, but I was often idle. I was able to do my bit for the war effort by being here so that when boys came home on furlough, they could enjoy a good old shindig and take the memory of it back with them to boost their morale. They looked so smart in their uniforms, but some didn't come back.

After the war, things were different. So many of the young people who had been here before were no longer around. The shy and timid boys and girls were grown up and not so shy and timid any more. A new era seemed to dawn. Thankfully, they still believed in me and kept the old Farmers' Community Club going - and, as money was available, I'd get a little sprucing up now and then. A ceiling was added, floors were levelled, but the greatest improvement of all was the installation of power.

I kind of hated to part with the old gas lamps. Invariably, at the height of the evening, the light would flicker and die. While the janitor was scurrying for the air pump, some shy young swains could make a few bold advances under cover of darkness.

In 1951, a group of young ladies formed the Gay Gatherers and brought fresh vigor into my life, the most enjoyable of which was using me for doings with children, such as Christmas concerts, picnics, Easter parties. You have no idea how good it feels to hear the joyous laughter and running feet echo from the walls.

In the 60s, the Pembina Valley 4-H Garden Club used me for meetings and parties. Thank goodness, I was able to share a bit of their lives for those few years. They left their mark by skirting my grounds with evergreens - each lovingly planted and dedicated to a pioneer family. I thank you, young people, for beautifying me with such a lovely memento.

The last ten years have passed very quickly; but



Park Court Hall built in 1934 and still used.

thanks to an active community, I've been able to share in many weddings, showers, community suppers, dances, concerts, parties, picnics, barbecues, funerals - you name it, I've had it!

Forty-two years is a long time to stand; forty-two years of happiness and sorrow. Throughout the country, halls of the same vintage as I have become derelict, crumbled, or disappeared altogether - but look at me! I'm in as good a shape, if not better, as I was on my debut forty-two years ago! Yessiree! There are many good years in the old girl yet! My being here at age forty-two is no accident - oh no! It is because I have been able to enjoy the loving care and respect of a wonderful community. I hope I can continue to serve for years and years to come. For while I may not have the classy form of newer halls, an aura of memories makes these old walls breathe so that anyone can be comfortable - like on your grandmother's lap. Often as I stand here alone and reminisce, we seem to be all together again, romances bloom and romances fade, the young folks flirt and the old tongues wag, the walls vibrate and the stove is red - and Reg calls out: "Swing 'em like thunder!"

Thank you, to all who made it possible for me to be here at age forty-two. Thank you to all those wonderful people who dreamed up the idea that a community hall could be the living heart of this community and make it endure. I believe I have fulfilled that purpose. But my continuance depends on you who are here, now. Let your children know me, and let no one feel unwelcome. Let me share your joys and sorrows, and let me say with all the founding fathers of the Farmers' Community Club:

*Here stands a landmark. Time and change
Will crowd its widening door,
Bringing the dreams we visioned
and the hopes we battled for-
A legacy to those who come
From those who come no more.*

Pembina Valley 4H Garden Club

The Pembina Valley 4H Garden Club was organized in the spring of 1960 with ten founding members. They were Lois Grant, June Ohl, Eileen Harke, Shirley Harke, Hilda Fausak, Elaine Langer, Lillian Naumyc, Lillian Rosadiuk, Rose Rosadiuk and Annie Rosadiuk. Leaders were Hazel Fausak, Margaret Young and Audrey Langer.

It was a garden club where each member received certain vegetable and flower seeds which were provided by the Department of Agriculture to be seeded by a set plan provided by the department. There were annuals, biennials and perennials. It was very important to not deviate from this plan or points would be lost.

In the middle of the growing season, a garden tour was held where all members went around and saw everyone else's garden. Points were achieved for growth, appearance, and following the plan.

Achievement days consisted of displays of vegetables and flowers, salads and canning samples, all according to the set plan provided.

The winning member was awarded a week's stay at 4H week at Vermilion Agricultural College.

The lower age limit was thirteen so new members became eligible each year. Second year members received seeds which they could plant according to their own plan, as well as look after the biennials and perennials from the previous year.

Third year members received a group of shrubs to use to beautify their farmyard.

In our third year boys became eligible to be members. We had a total of nineteen members.



Park Court 4-H Club

(L—R) Lillian Naumyc, June Ohl, Rose Rosadiuk, Annie Rosadiuk, Mary Belle Fausak, Elaine Langer, Bill Barabash, Stanley Rudyk, Jerry Weigl. (Front Row) Lois Grant, Maureen Fausak, Shirley Harke, Marlene Langer, Leigh Onstine, Larry Onstine.

Boys could do gardens or specialize in potato plots where they planted six varieties of potatoes and had to study the good and bad points of each. Subsequent years they could specialize.

The group went to rallies and sent delegates to conferences. They entered a float in the exhibition and put on social evenings at the Park Court Hall.

They were a lively group and with the Rosadiuks' lovely singing voices, they were the most musical group around.

While the club was in operation, they obtained enough spruce trees to plant around the outer edge of the grounds of the Park Court Hall and dedicated each one to a pioneering family of the district.

The club was in operation for six years during which, besides the founding members mentioned above, the following were members: Marlene Langer, Loretta Demkiw, Rose Demkiw, Maureen

Fausak, MaryBelle Fausak, Valerie Fausak, John Fausak, Leigh Onstine, Larry Onstine, Frances Greenwood, Jerry Weigl, Stanley Rudyk, Eugene Rudyk, Larry Rosadiuk, Caroline Rosadiuk, Bill Barabash, RoseAnna Udchitz and Marjorie Tuttle.



District Ladies and Girls at Picnic at Pembina River. (L—R) (Back Row) Mrs. Oldham, Mrs. Stewart, (Middle Row) (L—R) Mrs. Proehl Sr., Mrs. Mattice, Mrs. Parry, Mrs. Young. (Front Row L—R) Margaret Stewart, Gwen Parry.

The Ladies Guild of Park Court

The Ladies Guild of Park Court was formed in the late thirties. At the time, due to the war, there was not much entertainment in the district, especially for the ladies. By having meetings the ladies were able to get out to see one another once a month.

They met in one another's houses and put on whist drives, pie socials, harvest suppers and dances. Most of these occasions were held in the school. In the summers, they held picnics at various places in Park Court, as well as at Seba Beach and Lake Isle.

They gave donations to many worthwhile causes, such as to the Red Cross, and to the Park Court United Church.

Among the members were Mrs. Lucy Horz, Mrs. Helen Young, Mrs. Kathleen Crago, Mrs. Olga Fausak, Mrs. Betty Proehl, Mrs. L. Farrell, Mrs. Sophie Paulduro, Mrs. Katherine Marysiuk, Mrs. Minnie Weist, Mrs. Anne Ohl, Mrs. Emma Mattice, Mrs. Hilda Clarke and Mrs. Rosa Weigl.

The Ladies Guild was active for several years after the war, until many of the members left the district. It had served a very important purpose during the time it was active, and is remembered kindly by all who were involved.

The Park Court Gay Gatherers

by Marion Fausak

The Gay Gatherers' Club was formed on February 6, 1952, at the home of Hazel Fausak, the club's first president. It was dissolved in 1981 after twenty-nine years of service to the community. Each year a new president and secretary were elected so that all members were given an equal chance to lead. The club was extremely active as it organized activities such as Christmas concerts, picnics, showers, wedding suppers, children's parties, sale lunches, card parties and get togethers for the members. At all times it supported the men's club, the F.C.C., in their efforts to run and maintain the Community Hall. All the original members, plus many more, were able to enjoy the club's silver anniversary held in 1977.



Some of Gay Gatherers - 1963

(L—R) Edith Enge (Knees), Marion Fausak, Mary Paulduro, Nina Iwaschuk, Hazel Fausak, Alice Grant, Elaine Greenwood (Back) and Georgina Onstine.

The Ukrainian Catholic Parish

by Mike Hotra

The Ukrainian Catholic Parish of Park Court was organized in November, 1933, at a meeting in the home of John Harboway with Rev. Papowich and eleven members present.

The first board consisted of President - John Harboway, Secretary - Onufrey Hotra, and Treasurer - Mike Maruska.

The location of the cemetery was to be on Leon Kulaba's quarter as it was central and on a good road. The church was to be built later. During the next few years, there were very hard times but the parish held together.

They took turns in having services in their homes, also in bringing the minister from Evansburg as he had to come from Edmonton by train. They raised money by having dances and socials. Looking over the books that were kept, an average dance statement would look like this: rent of school \$1.00, music \$3.00, janitor .50¢, coffee and sugar \$1.00. The food was donated. Admission .25¢. A good dance would bring in about \$12.00. Most money was raised at Christmas time by going around singing carols.

In 1938 plans were drawn up to build a church. A timber permit was taken out and each member had to cut enough logs to make 2,000 feet of lumber. The logs were hauled to Kasper Winteler who did the sawing. The church was built during 1939 - 1940 with volunteer labour. It took a lot of work and donations to finish the church inside. The women made flowers, curtains, and many other things that were needed.

Annual picnics were held by the church every year with surrounding parishes participating.

When Collynie School closed down, it was moved to the corner by the church and used as a hall for dances, weddings, meetings, etc.

By 1965, many parishioners had either moved to



Park Court Ukrainian Catholic Church Group

(Back Row L—R) John Bury, unknown, Mrs. Zinyk, Mrs. Chichak, Mrs. Kasianiuk, (Second Row L—R) Mrs. Maruska, Mrs. Luniw, Pete Pawlyna, Unknown, Mr. Naumyc, Mr. Rudyk with Baby, Mr. Myndiuk, (Third Row L—R) Mrs. Marysiuk, Mrs. Beniuk, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Mr. Hotra, Mr. Maruska, (Fourth Row L—R) Unknown, Mrs. Gramotovich, Mrs. Rudyk, Mrs. Kulaba, Mr. Beniuk, Unknown, Mrs. Szutiak, Unknown, Unknown, Mr. Marysiuk, Unknown, (Front Row L—R) Mrs. Hotra, Mrs. Naumyc, Mrs. Pawlyna, Unknown, Mr. Chichak, Mrs. Paulduro, Mrs. Steve Horboway, Mrs. Semeniuk, Mrs. Kopyczyn (seated).



(Top) Alex Beniuk, Andy Kasianiuk (Top Row) Joe Maruska, Bill Roszko, Annie Marysiuk, Mike Hotra, Ann Kulaba, Leda Holonko, Mary Holonko, Bill Hotra, Jenny Paulin, Ann Maruska, Rosie Paulin, Catherine Kopyczyn, Annie Chichak, Olga Marysiuk, Father Kurlo, (standing Middle) Paul Holonko, John Stiert, Nick Harboway, Unknown, Olga Hotra, Alice Naumyc, Olga Naumyc, Elizabeth Maruska, Sophie Hotra, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Mary Naumyc, Eddie Marysiuk, Allen Marysiuk, Alex Kasianiuk, (Sitting) Andy Paulduro, John Harboway, Bill Kopyczyn, Myron Naumyc, Andrew Harboway, Bill Harboway, Emily Chichak, Sophie Kasianiuk, Annie Kopyczyn.

other places or passed away, leaving only a few people to carry on. The church has not been used for many years. The cemetery is still in use and looked after by families of people who are buried there.

The school was donated and added to the Park Court Community Hall.

The families that contributed a lot of time and effort to the Parish were: John Harboway, Peter Marysiuk, Mike Maruska, Onufry Hotra, Dmytro Naumyc, Mike Kopyczyn, Andrew Beniuk, Leon Kulaba and Teodor Wyshynski.

Park Court United Church

by Alice Grant

United Church services were held at the Park Court school until the church was built. In 1936 a board of directors was appointed and plans were started for building a church. These were E. A. Mattice, M. Young, R N. Parry, A. Grapentin, J. Stewart and A. Oldham.

Mr. Dick Dollman donated two acres of land on the S.W. corner of 35-54-7. The logs were sawed into lumber by Joe and Bert Larwell and the lumber was planed by Kasper Winteler. In 1937 construction was started with a lot of volunteer labour.

Rev. J. Howard was the minister at that time, followed by Mr. Barnecott. Years later the church was closed and services moved to Evansburg. The Ladies Guild contributed a lot of help in the way of donations of money for supplies, etc.

One wedding - that of James and Millie Stewart - was held there.

In the cemetery beside the church some of the old-timers are laid to rest. Burials there are - Edward Fausak, 1936; Helmut Grapentin, 1936; Karl Horz, 1936; Theodore Proehl, 1939; Weigl children, 1940; Louis E. C. Horz, 1944; James Grant, 1948; Matthew Young, 1955; Mrs. Helen Young, 1980, Reinhold Harke, 1964, and Robert Fausak, 1981.



Park Court United Church

Park Court School

by M. Young

The first school north of Evansburg was built in Park Court. The district number was 2418 and was the first school in this division.

Mr. A. Hagen built it. It was a frame building, painted white inside and out. In later years the bottom half inside was painted grey. The inside was lined with fir vee joint. There were large windows on the south and north sides. There was a partition across one side for a small cloak room. There were school desks for all until there was a larger class. Then the older children had tables and chairs built by Mr. Horz.

Among the first school trustees were Gilbert Greenwood, Mr. E. Bierman, Mr. M. Young and Mr. Edward Caudle. Many others took over the task as years went on.

The first teachers were Mr. Bolster, Miss Wells, Albert Caudle, Mrs. Clara Caudle, Mr. L. B. Bisegar, Mr. Edwards, Miss Schlasse, Mrs. Liloe, Miss Mary Williams, Miss Gillan, Miss Sirniss, Miss Joseph, Miss Hazel McKivor, Mr. Broadbent, Miss Vowles, Miss Attwood, Miss K. McAlpine, Miss Wilkins, Miss Green, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Proehl, Alex Hutchinson, Miss Marion Allan, Harry Kuharchuk, Miss Klapuschak and Miss McLaughlin.



Park Court School and Pupils with teacher, Miss Williams in 1925.

(L—R) Margaret Young, Ronnie McMurchy, Elsa Harke, Marion Young, Helmut Bierman, Lena Stroshin, Henry Stroshin, Eugene Horz, Carl Horz, Arthur Proehl, Leona Smith, Ernie Bierman, Molly Greenwood, Ewald Bierman, Dena Harke, Janet Young.



Park Court School Students - The Boys

(B.R.) Marone Harboway, Nick Kasianiuk, John Greenwood, Helmut Grapentin. (Second R) Jim Stewart, Mike Hotra, Ed Stroshin, Richard Greenwood. (F.R.) Robert Greenwood, George Young, Fred Fausak, Kurt Fausak.



Park Court School Students

(B.R.) Margaret Stewart, Dorothy Matthews, Edith Grapentin, Hazel Bjornstad. (Second Row) Sarah Young, Emma Kulaba, Christel Grapentin. (F.R.) Ruth Bierman, Annie Kulaba, Bett Greenwood, Brenda Harris, Fanny Grapentin.

For many years the pupils took turns as water carriers and janitors. For several years Mr. L.C.B. Smith was janitor as he was renting the farm on which the school was located.

In winter all the ink-wells etc. were frozen each morning. Everyone sat around the heater to keep warm until the school room warmed up.

An addition was built onto the west side of the school for a cloak room so that the main room was larger.

One teacher insisted that each child have his own towel so there was a row of towels in the cloakroom but still only the small pail of water for drinking, etc.

The school board bought a piano in about 1927. Before that, Mr. Young often took his piano to the school for the Christmas concerts.

In 1941 a new larger school was built by Mr. Maguire. The old school was dismantled. The new school was only used for ten years and then the children were taken by bus to Evansburg.

The building was later sold to Fred Fausak. It is still located in his yard.

Park Court School

by Clara McKay

I taught school in Park Court for two years, from September, 1946, until June, 1948. If I remember correctly, there were twenty-four students the first year with four students in grade nine and one or more in each of the other grades, from one to eight. There was one beginner who, for the first few days, kept walking out and going home. His father finally convinced him that school was an inescapable part of life. The grade nine students faced Departmental Examinations at the end of June and much time was spent in preparing for them.

The hill north of the school was a wonderful place for skiing and sledding, and I remember the



Park Court School in 1946

(Back Row L—R) Shirley Farrell, Paul Holonko, Carl Ohl, John Pasechnick. (Next Row L—R) Olga Marysuik, Paul Krawchuck, Walter Holonko. (Next Row) Betty Fausak, Pat Farrell, David Krawchuck, Eddie Marysuik, Henry Ohl, Otto Wiest, Walter Wiest, Stanley Greenwood. (Front Row) Edna Markovetz, Debbie Farrell, Lily Ohl, Sylvia Horz, Walter Wyshynski, Allan Marysuik, Joe Pasechnick.

children coaxing to be allowed to go there at noon. I finally agreed and we all went and had a wonderful time, and an extended noon hour. There was at the time no danger of the superintendent arriving to find us all absent, because the road past the school was completely blocked and the only way to get there was to walk a considerable distance.

Preparations for the Christmas concert were started early and with much enthusiasm on the part of the students. With the experienced help of Mrs. Betty Proehl, who played the piano for us, that memorable first concert was, to my relief, a great success.

I remember Park Court as a warm and friendly community where school events and projects were always generously supported. I particularly remember much kindness and genuine hospitality extended to me by many families during my stay.

Anglican Church Hostel Program

About 1930 the Anglican Church had a program whereby young boys from England could apply for work in Canada. These boys might be from poor or large families, for whom the future in the old country was very bleak. They would come to the Anglican Church Hostel in Edmonton (run by Tom

Webb), from where they were placed on farms where the farmer had put in a request for a laborer.

They had to work for three years on a farm before they could get a job in the city. The Hostel was always available to them if they were out of a job. Reverend J. C. Mathews of Edson would periodically make visits to the host farms to see if the boys were all right.

A number of boys were placed in the Park Court, Evansburg, and Magnolia areas. They were:

Bill Ross	George Tomkinson
Eddie Norman	Ronald Sampson
Tom Hartley	Jimmie Watt
Jim and Ernie Sawyer	Tommie Hodges
Walter Brotherstone	Arthur Davenport
Bill Ross - see story elsewhere in this book.	

George Tomkinson went to work for Joe Stewart. After a few years he married Margaret Stewart. They homesteaded SE 5-55-7-5 where they lived for several years. Eileen, Ken, Joe and Frank were born while they lived in Park Court. They moved to Robb where George was in the trucking business. Donnie and Denny were born there. George lost his life in an accident with his truck in 1949, just a few months before Colleen was born. Margaret later remarried Jack Thompson and had four more children - Darlene, Joan, Susan and Pat. Eileen was also killed in a car accident in 1962.

Eddie Norman came from Nottingham and originally went to the Stewarts, then at a place close to Edmonton and then to Greenwoods, where he stayed for some time. After a short while in B.C. he went to work for McGavins - driving a bread wagon. He then went to work for Clark Lumber Co. He married Pauline Plum and in 1939 he joined the army and served overseas. He became a commissioned officer. When he came back from the war he went back to Clark Lumber. In 1954 he left Clark Lumber to work in a glass factory. He later moved to B.C. where he still resides.

Ronald Sampson worked for Albert Oldham.

Since he left Park Court he has not been heard from.

Tom Hartley came from Liverpool and worked for Gilbert Greenwood. He next went to the Rochfort Bridge area. He joined the army and went back to England to stay.

Jimmie Watt came from Ireland and worked for the Stewarts.

Jim Sawyer at only fourteen years of age went to work at Youngs, while his brother was at Gainford. After leaving Youngs Jim went to be with his brother at Gainford. Both worked there for several years. Jim died of pneumonia after a mishap. Ernie worked in the hotel for several years.

Tommie Hodges worked for Oldhams and married Helen Rickets, a cousin of Grace Cowies. They moved to the Rochfort Bridge area.

Walter Brotherstone came from Scotland and went to work at Youngs. He joined the army, but returned to Canada after the war. His whereabouts are unknown.

Arthur Davenport worked at Oldhams.

Mr. and Mrs. Franz Kleofas

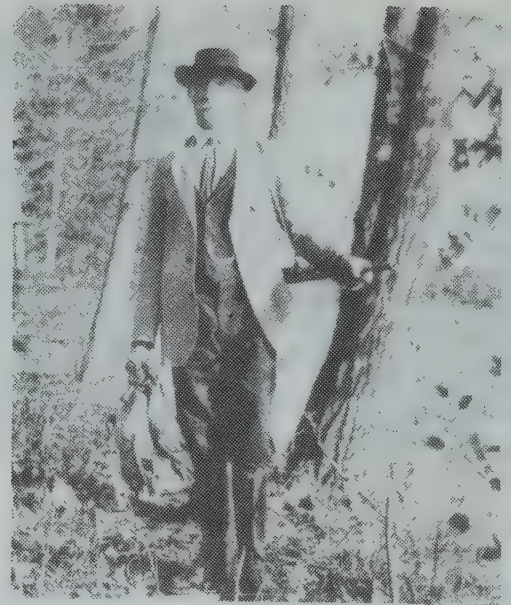
by Rose Spallin

Mr. Franz Kleofas and his oldest son, Karl, came to Alberta from Germany in 1909. From Edmonton they came to Park Court by horses and wagon.

They worked hard clearing land on the homestead, NE 24-54-7-W5 and building a squared log house. No nails were used just wooden pegs instead.

The younger son, Rudi, came over in 1913 to join his father and brother.

Karl joined the army and was killed in action in 1918.



Mr. Kleofas Sr.



Mrs. Kleofas



Mr. and Mrs. Kleofas, Rudolf and Kyle family.



Mr. and Mrs. F. Kleofas in the early twenties.

Rudi went back to Germany to bring his mother over, also Mr. Kleofas' nephew, Rudolf Weist.

Rudi died in July of 1925 and is buried in an Edmonton Catholic cemetery. They continued on the farm. Mr. Kleofas died in March 1936 and is buried in an Edmonton Catholic cemetery.

Mrs. Kleofas continued to farm for a time and then married Mr. Rumpf in 1940 and moved to Edmonton. Mr. Rumpf died in 1944. Mrs. Rumpf moved to Vancouver and lived in an apartment and later a nursing home until her death in 1965.

She came back to visit in Park Court a few times, the last time was in the summer of 1963.

The Bigland Family

by James Bigland

Robert Bigland and his family came to Canada from England about 1908. Robert homesteaded in the Park Court area and built one of the first frame houses in the area. The house, located just east of the Park Court Hall, is unoccupied but still standing as of my last visit in 1980.

Robert was killed in an accident just shortly after his arrival in Canada in 1913. His widow, Nancy, passed away in 1928. They left two sons, Edgar (Ted) and Allen, and three daughters, Ada (Mrs. Cayley), Hilda (Mrs. Horace Knight) and Ivy (Mrs. Ross Goodridge).

Ted Bigland who was my father, had worked for

Thomas Cook and Sons Travel Agents and it was through this connection the family decided to emigrate. He took a homestead in the Park Court area but farming was not what he was cut out to do and about 1920 he owned a general store at Lake Isle. Prior to leaving the family homestead he married Elizabeth (Lilly) Barr from Stanger. Ted disposed of the store in the late 1920's and bought a Hotel at Duvernay, Alberta which is northeast of Edmonton.

Eventually, he moved to Vancouver and retired in White Rock, B.C. where he passed away in the late 1950's. Lilly passed away in 1965 and they are both resting in the Masonic Cemetery in Burnaby, B.C.

One of my Dad's favorite pastimes was hunting ducks and geese on Lake Isle. One cold Fall day he and another mighty hunter shot numerous geese in the reeds around Lake Isle. They were celebrating their good fortune that evening when a neighbor came in and I still recall his words fifty years later, "Good God, men! These are tame geese!" It seems they belonged to a man who was in politics from Darwell. They paid him for the dead geese but he still sued for damage to the rest of the flock as they were too frightened to eat for days after their ordeal.

Ted and Lilly left four sons and two daughters, Jim, Vic, Kathleen, Barbara, Bruce and Leonard. Jim was born at Park Court in 1917. He served



Ted and Lily Biglands family (L—R) Leonard, Bruce, Barbara, Kathleen, Vic and Jim.

overseas as a bomber pilot in World War II. After the war, he married a Vancouver girl, Eva Hood, and went to work for B.C. Forest Products in Vancouver and recently retired at Parksville on Vancouver Island. Jim has two sons, Jim Jr. who is a teacher at Kitimat, B.C. and Rick who is a RCMP Constable presently stationed at Evansburg.

Victor was also born at Park Court in 1918 on Armistice Day. He also served with the RCAF during World War II and after the war went to work for the B.C. Hydro Railway in Vancouver. At the present time he is the senior conductor on that line. He married a Kamloops girl, Aloise MacDonald, and has one son, Doug, in Edmonton, and a daughter, Robin, in Calgary. Kathleen married Robert Cropper who worked for M. & B. Lumber Co. in Vancouver and they are now retired and living in Courtenay, B.C. They have one daughter, Valarie. Barbara married Robert Shearer who is with B.C. Hydro in Vancouver. They have two sons, Bruce in Vancouver and Cameron in Vernon, B.C. Leonard works for Gulf Oil in Toronto. He married Albie Bayer of Vancouver and they have two sons, Owen and Reed. Bruce immigrated to the USA and lives in Los Angeles. He married a Vancouver girl, Laurel Ringland, and they have one daughter, Linda. Bruce works for Union Oil.

Allan Bigland operated the Magnolia general store in the late 1920's and later went farming at Tofield, Alberta. He then moved to Kelowna where he passed away in 1959. His wife, Clara, passed away in the late 1960's. He left one son, Lorne, who lives in Kamloops, B.C.

Ivy married Ross Goodridge in 1914. They lived in Entwistle area for a short time but later moved to Edmonton where he worked for Hayward Lumber Co. until his retirement. They both lived a long life and were the last of their generation to pass away in the 1970's. Ada, who married William Cayley prior to coming to Canada passed away in 1934, four years after her husband had died. She owned and operated a bakery business in Edmonton called Cayley Bakery. They left one son, Jack, who was a geologist for the Federal Government in Ottawa for

a time, and also a professor at Queen's University in Toronto. They had one daughter, Rene, who was a nurse and passed away in the early 1950's.

Hilda was known in the Park Court area as Mrs. Horace Knight. However, Horace passed away in 1925 and Hilda later married Archie Gibson who was with Saskatchewan Government Telephones in Regina. Horace and Hilda had one son, Ernie, who spent some of his early years at Park Court with my parents and learned to swim at an early age in the Pembina River. He served in Africa during World War II with the RAF. His plane was shot down and he was taken prisoner by an Italian Battalion which was in the theatre. These Italians had very little interest in the war and after wandering around in the desert for a few days they surrendered to their prisoners who then found some Allied troops and rescue. Ernie suffered some injuries and died shortly after returning to Regina. He was married and had one daughter who teaches school in southern Alberta.

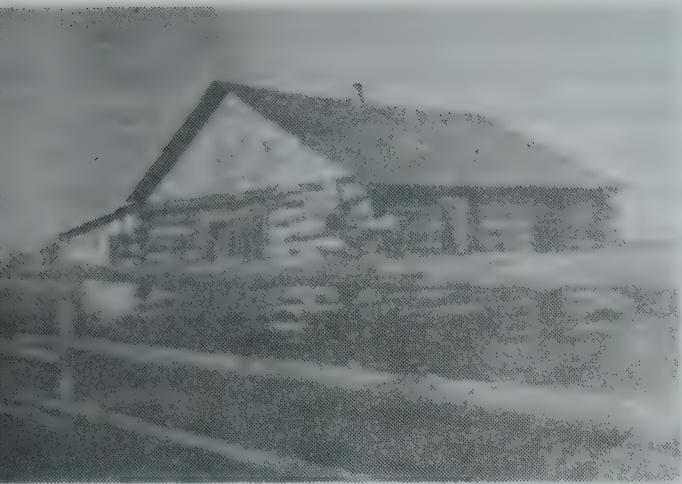
Gilbert E. Greenwood

by - his sons Richard and Edward

Dad was born June 29, 1890 in Shrewsbury, England. He apprenticed in farm management at the age of eighteen near Evesham. At that time he met Donald Caudle.

In 1908 Dad and Don Caudle came to Canada by boat, the S.S. Virginia. It took them seven or eight days. They got a job on a dairy farm at B.B. Plains near Sherbrooke, Quebec, which was right on the American and Canadian border. The barn was half in U.S.A. and half in Canada. They worked there eight months. Here they met Stanley (Dick) Dollman. Dad went back to England for Christmas the winter of 1909 and returned to Sherbrooke, Quebec, in March 1910.

Then Don Caudle, Dad and Dick Dollman as partners came west to Edmonton. They met Peter Gunn who told them of the land north of Entwistle. They then left Edmonton on foot as the trains were not yet running. Arriving in Entwistle they built a



Gilbert Greenwood's first house.



Mrs. Norah Greenwood with Molly, Edward, John, Richard and Bett.

ft on the Pembina River and headed north. By evening they had travelled some distance. They spotted a cabin on the east side of the river, so they pulled ashore. A man by the name of M.H. Matthews lived in the cabin. They told him they were heading for the Peace River Country, so he told them the best way to get there was to leave their raft there and walk northwest about forty miles to a small town called Whitecourt. There they could get a river that would take them to the Peace River Country. Homesteaders looking for land always looked for sloughs so they could cut hay, and Dad had heard there was lots of hay in the Peace River Country. So they spent the night at M.H. Matthews and in the morning headed northwest for Whitecourt. About two p.m. in the afternoon they came to the area now known as Park Court finding several large hay sloughs. So they said, "Why go to

the Peace River when there is hay like this." They located the quarters of land S.W. 2-55-7 W.5, S.W. 3-55-7-W5 and the N.E. 33-54-7 W.5. and walked back to Edmonton to file on them. When they came back it took them three weeks to cut a trail from Blasius where Mike Semenyna now lives to where they were going to build their first log cabin on the S.W 3-55-7 W.5 just north of where Park Court Hall now stands. The name Park Court was chosen by Mrs. Bierman, Sr. being the older lady of the district at that time. The name they originally chose was Park Land but when it came to be registered there was already a Parkland and the government suggested they call the district "Park Court".

They lived in a tent while building their log cabin. They bought a team of oxen for six-hundred dollars. Dad said it used to take a day to drive to Entwistle, spend the night at the hotel and spend the next day coming home. Later Dad bought a saddle horse, making the trips to Entwistle much faster.

They broke up enough land in the few years ahead with the oxen to prove up their homestead and get their land titles.

Dad helped build the first school in Park Court in 1914. He was one of the first school trustees. Mr. Bollster was one of the first teachers.

On Dec. 5, 1915 Dad married Norah Caudle. They raised a family of seven children. Mary born 1917, Edward 1919, John 1921, Richard 1923, Elizabeth 1924, Robert 1926 and Stanley 1931.

Mrs. W. Smith was midwife for the first six children as they were all born on the homestead. Stanley, who was born five years later, was born in Evansburg with Dr. Chisholm in attendance.

Dad hauled the mail from Entwistle to Park Court from 1913 to 1929. At times he had to carry it across the railroad bridge from Entwistle as the river was too high to cross at the ferry. Then he would go north and east to Park Court.

He was municipal councillor from about 1924 to March, 1934 and was reeve for six or eight of those years for what was known then as the Municipal District of Pembina No. 552. Many district roads were built during that time. In 1929 the government hired him as foreman to build the road from where the two churches stand, west and north until it joined the road that came south from Rochfort Bridge.

In 1935 he purchased his father-in-law's land, being N.W. 34-54-7-W5. In 1938 he purchased S.W. 34-54-7-W5 on a tax sale for the sum of five hundred dollars.

He actively farmed with his sons until 1952 when he became a victim of cancer and high blood pressure. He suffered several strokes and passed away Feb., 1953.

Here are a few incidents related to us by Dad: In 1919, the year of the flu epidemic, many were very sick but the only one we can remember passing away was James Stewart, elder brother of Joe Stewart. He was sick for three days, finally hanging a white cloth out of his door or window in hopes that Dad would see it. Dad did as Jim was a very frequent visitor and they had not seen him for several days. They went right over with a pot of hot soup. Unfortunately he had not eaten for several days and was very weak. They managed to get him to Edmonton but he passed away within a few days.

In 1911 Dad and his two partners had just finished dinner and happened to go out to the door when out of the bush to the north came a man with something white hanging around his neck. As the man got closer Dad said, "I think this man must be out of his head". The man had his worldly belongings stuffed into a pair of long underwear drawers, tied at the ankle and hung around his neck. He asked for something to eat. They tried to talk to him and all he would tell them was he had left Whitecourt some days ago. He ate dinner, got up and walked south into the bush and was never seen or heard of again.

We always remember Dad telling us about a cold

week in the winter of 1911. They had run out of supplies and at that time there was hardly any game, no moose or deer. All they had was a sack of rolled oats so they made a big pot of porridge for breakfast, then let it get cold and sliced off pieces and fried it for dinner, the same thing for supper. They said it was quite appetizing when you are hungry.

As previously mentioned there was very little big game in the area and during the spring when the ruffed grouse started drumming, Dad used to sneak up on them and shoot them. One day Mr. Kleofas said to him in his broken English - "No shoot birds for they also be coming in the morning in the spring mit ten young."

In early years we were always invited to the Kleofas' for New Year's dinner which was really something very special because he had a small Christmas tree decorated with real candles which he lit for us just before supper, and would say to us, "Help mudder, help fodder, coming Santa Claus. No help mudder, no help fodder, coming man mit big schtick."

There were always two great events of the year for children and parents alike, the annual Christmas concert and the school closing picnic. We used to start practicing for the Christmas concert in early November with plays, skits and recitations. We all remember Mr. W.F. Hogg, Sr. with fond thoughts at Christmas concerts of today as he was our very jovial Santa Claus and afterwards sang Christmas and Scottish songs for us. We always marvel at some of the costumes our parents managed to come up with when they could get so little to make them from.

The picnic was another great event. There was soft ice-cream, cold coffee and warm lemonade. They had races of all kinds and ball games for the kids, men's race and the ladies driving nails and throwing the rolling pin. It was a foregone conclusion with everyone, that when it came to throwing the rolling pin that this one lady always fainted, and we children never missed that. It used to cause quite a bit of excitement.

The selling of cattle used to be quite a problem, at least getting them to market in Edmonton. We always remember the first shipping association formed in Park Court. The neighbors all got together on a specified day and drove their two or three animals to Gainford which was the nearest place you could load cattle on the train. The farthest away started out first and as you passed each homesteader's place you acquired a few more, causing great excitement as there was always a hassle between the animals to see which was boss. By the time you reached the ferry on the Pembina River, near the land Pete Prylowski now owns, both animals, men and older children were almost exhausted. Then came the job of loading them on the ferry and taking them across the river. With a very early start and a very late night it could be made in a day. Finding the river crossing such a hassle, they decided after a few years to go to Rochfort Bridge, that being a long and hilly trip but at least no ferry. It was in the late 1920's before there were any loading facilities in Evansburg.

Another big occasion for all was threshing time. We always remember coming home from school just in time to take the afternoon lunch out to the crew. On this particular time Harkes were threshing for us and after lunch while August Harke and Dad were watching and admiring the wheat coming into the granary Richard was up on the machine watching the weighing mechanism dump its half bushel every so many bundles fed into the machine. So for a joke he took off his canvas shoe and popped it into the auger going to the granary. I don't think I ever saw two men move so quickly as Dad and August when that shoe came into the bin. Needless to say Richard thought it was very funny but Dad and August didn't.

As previously mentioned Dad passed away in 1953 and our sister Mary passed away in 1974. At the age of eighty-eight our mother enjoys fairly good health and is in the Mayerthorpe Nursing home. Sister Elizabeth is married and has seven children and lives in Kitchener, Ontario. John, his wife having passed away three years ago still lives in Vancouver. They have two daughters. Richard and his wife Edna live in Stanger. Robert is single and



Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Greenwood with family and Mr. E. J. Caudle. Molly was absent.

still farms in Park Court. Stanley and Carol have seven children and farm Dad's home place. After the war, Edward came home and purchased the G.L. Matthews place. Elaine and Edward have four children, two daughters and two sons.

Dad always asked us to remember the many things he told us of his pioneer days as maybe they would be history one day.

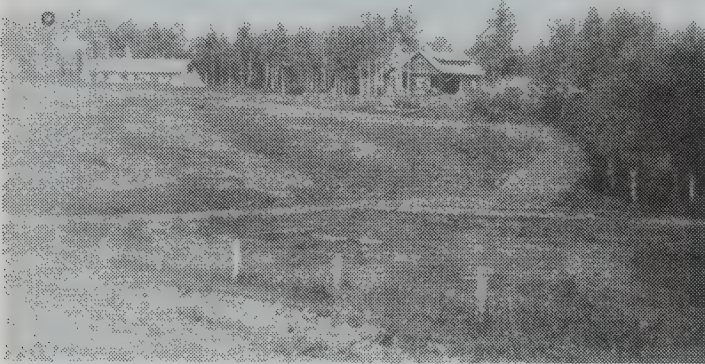
Don and Clara Caudle

Don Caudle came to Canada in 1908 with Gilbert Greenwood. They worked on a dairy farm at B.B.Plain, Quebec, right on the Canadian-American border, in fact, the dairy barn was half in Canada and half in the U.S.A. The division was marked by a row of brass tacks. They came West in the spring of 1910.

Don farmed in Park Court for a few years leaving to spend several years as a cook for a Guiding Outfitter at Banff. He came back and married Clara Balderson who came to teach in the Park Court school. They then went to British Columbia for a few years, then back to Park Court again for a few years. In 1922 they bought a farm near Evansburg, where he had a dairy and market



Mr. Don Caudle with first house where the Park Court Hall is now.



House of Mr. and Mrs. Don Caudle in Evansburg.



(Back Row) Gilbert Greenwood, Dick Dollman, Don Caudle. (Front Row) Norah Greenwood, Edward J. Caudle, Connie Dollman, Clara Caudle.

garden. Evansburg at that time being a mining town, this enterprise turned out to be a reasonably profitable business. For many years it was a daily sight to see him delivering milk, cream, eggs and vegetables door to door with his pony "Maude" pulling a cart in the summer and cutter in the win-

ter. In a short period of time Maude knew the route as well as, or better than, her driver.

Don and his wife were ardent supporters of the Evansburg United Church. He also served for some time on the Edson School Board.

In 1943 he sold his farm and moved to Victoria, B.C. where he started growing flower and vegetable seeds. This did not prove to be a very good venture. He then went into the chicken business, selling eggs and broilers.

In 1955 his wife passed away and his sister, Norah Greenwood, went to live with him. After about two years he went back to England to a former sweetheart and was married in six weeks. They returned to carry on the chicken business and vegetable market garden.

Don passed away in April, 1959.

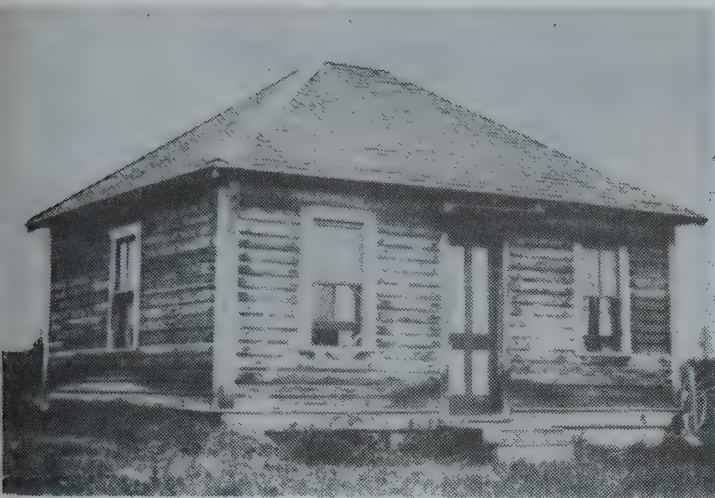
(Dick) Stanley Thomas Dollman - 1889-1974

by Mrs. Connie Dollman

Stanley T. Dollman was born in London, England in 1889 and came to Canada in 1903. He worked for a doctor in Quebec for about two years and while there, he was called Dick. From then on, he was known as Dick Dollman. He then went to work on a farm in Quebec, and it was there that he met Don Caudle and Gilbert Greenwood. From there these three young men decided to go west to take up homesteads.

They arrived in Edmonton in March, 1910 and then went by rail to Entwistle, a journey that took them thirteen hours as the train went off the track several times. They headed north of Entwistle, and after crossing the Pembina River, they stayed a night at the Hagen's homestead. The next day, they headed northwest and took up land there--NE 33-54-7-w5. They built a log house on Don Caudle's land and lived there until they had houses of their own.

In 1911 Dick saw a bear at Magnolia Bridge and



Dick Dollman's first house in Park Court - 1912.



Dick and Connie Dollman's wedding with Mr. M. Young, Mr. E. J. Caudle, Albert Caudle, Mrs. Smith, Gilbert Greenwood, Grace Smith, Nora Greenwood Janet Young, Molly Greenwood.



Mrs. Dollman with son, Jim.

he went to buy a rifle in Entwistle. He asked to try it out and went back and shot the bear. He sold the bear meat to a camp, and also sold the hide. With the proceeds, he was able to buy the rifle, which he later used to shoot moose and deer in season.

In 1910, a post office was established in the district. It was run by Mr. Lembke, and it was then that the district was named Park Court.

In that same year, Dick built the first frame house in the area. He bought three hundred and fifty feet of six-inch boards for seven dollars and twenty-five cents, and a keg of two and a half inch nails for four dollars and ninety-five cents. High top boots were then selling for four dollars and fifty cents, a sombrero hat seventy-five cents, and five bars of Lifebuoy soap twenty-five cents.

Dick worked out during the summer. He worked in Edmonton for awhile and helped build the McLeod Building and the MacDonald Hotel. For two summers, he worked on a farm near Stony Plain for Mr. Mills.

He first met his future wife in 1914 when Don Caudle's father, brother and two sisters joined Don in Canada. He became engaged to Connie Caudle in 1916. One night after returning from visiting her, he saw one of his hens backing up under the porch. He pulled it out and a skunk was hanging onto the other end. He killed the skunk and then took his clothes to the creek to wash everything. Even after he was married, the smell of the skunk could be noticed by the porch when it rained.

He joined the army in 1916 and served overseas for two years. He was married in 1919, and in 1920 they had a son, Jim. He had to drive two miles in 40-degrees-below-zero weather through deep snow to get Mrs. Smith, the midwife.

From then on, he worked on his farm until 1929. He had often helped out at calving time while working on the farm in Quebec, so he had learned how to cope with some of the problems. Quite often, therefore, he was called on to help deliver a calf or foal in the middle of the night.

In 1929, he sold his original farm to R. Fausak and bought his father-in-law's homestead. He lived there six years. In 1935, his health started to fail and he had to give up farming. He then moved to Evansburg. It was discovered that he had diabetes. He was one of the earlier ones to be given insulin.

In 1939, they moved to Edmonton as their son, Jim, was now working there. Jim, joined the army and went overseas in 1940 where he met and married an English girl. They came to Canada in 1945, and later that year, Dick and Connie went to live on Vancouver Island. They lived there for nearly twenty years, first in Sidney and then in Victoria.

In 1963, they returned to Edmonton to be nearer Jim as Dick's health was failing. He passed away in March, 1974, leaving his wife, one son, three grandsons, one great-granddaughter and three great-grandsons. Connie is still living in Edmonton, and there are now nine great-grandchildren.

The Matthew Young Family

by the Family

Matthew Young was born in Nottingham, England, in 1885, of Scottish parents. He left England in April of 1912 with a friend, Don Caudle, bound for Alberta where Mr. Caudle had been the year before and had a homestead. Dad had been told by his doctor to seek outside work to improve his health, so he decided to try farming. They left in a ship that sailed just a few days ahead of the *Titanic* on her fateful voyage.

Dad filed on the northeast quarter of section 3-55-7-W5 in the Park Court district, and with the help of other homesteaders built a small frame house - one room downstairs and one up.

Helen Frances Gillard of Bristol, England, arrived in Edmonton in June 1913 and they were married July 1 in All Saints Cathedral. The next day they came by train to Entwistle where they were met by Allan Bigland who took them to Park Court with his team and buggy.



Mr. and Mrs. M. Young when they arrived home after their wedding in 1913 with Mrs. Bigland and Ivy Bigland.



Mr. M. Young with first house on homestead in 1912.

Dad and Mother had met while working in Boots Drug Store in Bristol. Neither had any knowledge of farming. However, through trial and error, they learned to cope. Trials were many indeed, as the land had to be cleared with axe and grub hoe and broken with a team of oxen and a wooden beam breaking plow.

As was often the case, one ox was a good and faithful worker while the other was lazy and would stop and lie down when the going got tough. One of the recommended cures for this was to light a fire under the lazy beast, but Dad, having a liking for animals, put out the fire as soon as he smelled scorched hair. He used to say he felt at a disadvantage driving oxen because he had never learned the vocabulary of veteran oxen drivers. The oxen were replaced a year or so later by a team of mares, from which they raised all the horses for the farm until the time of tractors.



Mr. and Mrs. M. Young with Janet, Margaret, Sarah and George with second house on homestead about 1935.

One of the first summers, a family of Indians camped near their oat field and could be heard singing and chanting in the evenings. After a week or so, they packed up their teepee and moved on, heading for Lac Ste. Anne. Over the years, Dad found many arrow and spear heads while working on the fields so this may have been a favourite camping spot for hundreds of years.

One of Dad's hobbies was gardening, and a good garden was very important in those days. It provided a change from partridge and rabbit which were a main part of the homesteader's fare. Mother was a good cook and always had a meal for anyone who came by.

The surrounding area was gradually settled until there were neighbors on almost every quarter section. Some of these were bachelors and when war broke out in 1914, many left to join the army and some did not return.

For entertainment in the early days, there were Christmas concerts, picnics, and dances at the Park Court School which was built in 1914. It was a frame building painted white and had a row of large windows down one side. In those days there was no insulation in the buildings, so on cold days the school children would gather around the big pot-

bellied heater until the room finally warmed up about noon. Dad played the piano for the Christmas concert and also for the church services which were held in the school. The Park Court United Church was built many years later, in a large part through his efforts.

The school was a bit over two miles from our place and some students walked five or six miles to get there. Sometimes, on cold days, someone would come with a team and sleigh and give a ride to all who were going that direction.

In 1921, Dad took over the Park Court Post Office from Mrs. Bigland, and operated it until it was closed in 1953. Many an evening was spent around the piano with the people who came for their mail while they waited for the mail carrier to arrive.

Starting in 1922, a tennis club was formed and a court laid out in the field near the house. Some of the players even had the proper tennis clothes which they had brought from England, such as white flannels!

Matthew and Helen had five children - Janet who lives in Edmonton; Margaret, living in the Park Court area; Marion, who passed away in 1925 at the age of seven; Sarah, married, with two children,



Mr. and Mrs. M. Young.

and living in Sherwood Park; and George, married, with two children, and living on the original farm.

Dad passed away in May 1955. Mother lived on until September, 1980, still taking a great interest in her family and grandchildren until the ripe old age of ninety-seven. Both are at rest in the Park Court cemetery.

J. H. Smith Family

by S. Stewart

My Dad, John Henderson Smith, came to Canada in 1911 from his native Scotland as a young man of twenty three. He was born in Elderslie, Renfrewshire near Glasgow, and had been preceded to Canada by his younger brother, Adam. They were the two youngest sons of a family of eleven - seven sons and four daughters - of William and Annie Hamilton Smith.

John was an accountant and Adam was a machinist. John worked first in Winnipeg, briefly, and then in Calgary for Pat Burns and Co., and then for Western Canada Flour Mills, where he first met a young secretary, Marie Reid. The Reid family had immigrated to Calgary from Belfast that year ... mother, father, three daughters and two of their three sons.

In the meantime, Adam had become enthusiastic about the land along the Pembina River, and had filed on a homestead in the Park Court district; and in about 1912, John filed on the SW of 15-55-7-W5 ... about a half mile from the Pembina River, and

twelve miles north of Evansburg . . . immediately east of Adam's quarter.

No trail for access to their homesteads existed for the last four or five miles from Evansburg, and they had to open up a road, laying down logs for "corduroy" across the muskeg so that they could get in with horses and wagons. Spring, summer and fall they worked hauling in supplies from the railway and clearing the land. In the winter for several years, John went back to Calgary to work for Western Canada Flour Mills, the extra cash coming in handy for livestock and machinery. During these years they lived in a "tent-cabin" in all weather, until they built what Dad called a "beautiful little log house" on Adam's place. However, they couldn't move out of the tent-cabin yet . . . the log house burned to the ground before they could move into it.

The nearest railway was at Magnolia, across the river, but I remember Dad telling about riding horseback all the way to Edmonton in the wintertime, crossing frozen Lake Wabamun and staying for the night with homesteaders called Smith (no relation) who lived near Fallis.

Another brother, Alec, emigrated from Scotland to Alberta in 1914 or 1915 with his wife and young daughter, both named Agnes. As a young lad in Scotland, Alec had lost an arm in a railway accident, however, he did not consider himself handicapped and filed successfully on a quarter immediately south and east of John's place in the bend of the river.

Water was a problem. A little creek runs across the southwest corner of Dad's place, but cattle could use it only in summer . . . in winter it froze solid and water had to be hauled in barrels from the river, using horses and sleigh. They often hauled water during a dry summer, too. Wells were bored a couple of times during the years, but water was never satisfactory, either quality or quantity.

John enlisted in the Canadian Army (49th Battalion) in 1917 and went overseas, serving in France,



Marie Reid just before her marriage to John Smith about 1919 in Calgary.

and was wounded in Amiens. He was in hospital in England when the war ended. In the meantime, Alec had sold out and moved with his family to Edmonton. He worked as storekeeper for the CNR, Calder Yards, from then until his retirement many years later. They had another daughter, Anne, and lived in the Westmount district of Edmonton.

In 1919, in common with most of their neighbors, John and Adam both came down with the flu during the epidemic, fortunately one at a time. After the war, John added the adjacent quarter, the NW 15 to the farm on his Soldier's Settlement Grant.

In 1920 John married Miss Marie Reid of Calgary, and brought her home to a brand new, uncompleted house, which he had built himself. It was an ambitious house for the time and place, built with lumber from logs cut on the property and hauled out to the sawmill. It still stands foursquare but now isolated on top of the hill, and is used as a part-time granary. It had a large kitchen, pantry, living room and one bedroom on the ground floor, and on the second floor, two more bedrooms on each side of a central staircase. It was built over a

cellar, and had a large woodshed on the back. From the living room windows there is a lovely view of the valley and surrounding hills.

Three children were born during the 1920's; Eileen in 1922 born at the home of Mrs. Wright in Evansburg, George born in 1923 at the farm, and Sally in 1928 at the home of Mrs. Bell in Evansburg. In April 1924 Eileen and George were baptized in the livingroom of the farm house by an itinerant Lutheran minister, Pastor C. A. Schmidt, with witnesses Grandmother Sara Reid, and Mr. Andrews, a neighbor.

The nearest doctor was in Evansburg . . . the nearest hospital in Edmonton. When Eileen was four or five she had an accident . . . serious in any circumstances. Dad had a wagon-box full of quicklime which he was slaking to use in mortar for a chimney he was building. Eileen took a notion to jump across the wagon-box, and fell in, getting quicklime in both eyes. Mother put castor oil in her eyes, and they took her to the doctor in Evansburg. Mother then had to take her by train to Edmonton. Dad got word at the farm a couple of anxious days later that Eileen's sight was saved . . . probably by the castor oil.

During the 1920's John was elected to the first Municipal Council, whose major responsibility was,



The Smith house in 1976 built in 1920 by J. H. Smith - still standing in 1982.

of course, improvement of roads. During this time Grandmother Reid visited the farm every summer from Calgary, staying to help Mother during the threshing. Marie and John both loved to sing, and John played the violin a bit. They used to sing duets at local entertainment and socials.

Also during the 1920's Adam sold his homestead to the Kasianiuk family, and he moved to Dundas, Ontario where a sister lived, and where he worked as a machinist. Here he met and married Helen Drury. They moved to Edmonton and he bought a partnership in the Drew Machine Co. on 107th Street which he operated until his death in 1960. Adam and Nell had six children.

In the winter of 1928-29, the John Smith family suffered a disaster which contributed largely to a decision they made the following Fall . . . to leave the farm. The barn burned to the ground one cold and snowy night. Eileen vividly remembers this . . . she was a little girl of seven. She remembers being hurried out, bundled up, to stand in the snow with Mother, and her little brother and the baby in case the house should catch on fire; and that she had her shoes on the wrong feet! She remembers Dad leading the animals out of the barn . . . Patsy and Dickie, the horses. Neighbors came and all worked together to save the house by soaking gunny sacks in water from the horse trough and wetting down the roof.

In 1929, times were very bad. Hogs, cattle, eggs and grain were fetching incredibly low prices, and the Smiths had to decide whether to rebuild the barn and continue to try to make a go of it, or to move to Edmonton. Another problem . . . Eileen and George were six and seven, and could not travel alone the miles to the nearest school, especially in the winter. Mother had taught Eileen to read, but our parents were seriously concerned about getting the children to school. In the fall of 1929 the machinery and stock were auctioned off, and the land rented out the following year. The family moved, first to Calgary, and then to Edmonton where Dad worked for Gainer's as a bookkeeper, and then for the Debt Adjustment Board of the

Provincial Government. Another son, Hugh, was born in 1934.

Our farm was rented on crop-shares all through the Thirties . . . my parents always had it in their minds that they would go back. One tenant during this time was the Fausak family, who still live in the district. During those years; our whole family went up for holidays every summer for two or three weeks. We kids loved it. Dad repaired the fences, we renewed acquaintances with the neighbors, and we got to swim in the River.

In the late 1930's, the north quarter was sold to Mr. Rosadiuk, and in 1940 the home quarter was sold to Mr. Kuharchuk and his family. They were survivors of the sinking of the "Athenia" by German subs at the beginning of the war in 1939. They lived on the farm for a few years, eventually selling to the Rosadiuk family and moving out of the district. The Rosadiuks still have John's farm, as well as Adam's across the road.

Mother, Marie Reid Smith, passed away in Edmonton in 1940. John worked for the Provincial Government, first in the Debt Adjustment Board, and then in the office of the Public Trustee until he retired in 1953. He died in 1976 at the age of eighty-eight. Both are buried in the Edmonton Cemetery. They had ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Eileen, Sally, and George Smith on farm in 1932.

Eileen married Michael Spence . . . they live in Burnaby and have two children. George married Marjorie Nimmo . . . they live in Calgary and have four children. Sally married Neil Stewart . . . they have four children and three grandchildren, and now live in Victoria, B.C. Hugh lived for many years at Hinton, and is now at Chase, B.C.

Jim Stewart

1889 - 1918

Jim Stewart left his home country of Ireland and went to California in America in the first years of the nineteen hundreds. He came to the Park Court district in the year 1909 and took up a homestead. He lived alone on the homestead until 1918 when he took the flu and passed away. He had willed the farm to his brother, Josiah Stewart. Jim Stewart was buried in the Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Edmonton, Alberta.

Arthur Weiss

Arthur Weiss came in 1927. He had been a ship's cook and had travelled the world over in the merchant fleet. He took land south of Paul Ohl and farmed alone for many years.

He never missed a dance in the Park Court School and later at the hall.

He sold his farm to Dr. Hopkyns and bought an acreage in Hansonville. He built a little house on his acreage and lived there until his death.

The Pritchows

The Pritchows came to Park Court in about 1911. They lived on the school quarter, where they raised chickens, pigs and cows.

In the early 1920s their house burned down. Soon after, Mr. Pritchow left Park Court and was never heard from again.

Mrs. Pritchow went to work for McCormicks. She bought a little house up in Arnupville, where she would stay in the summers while going to Mc-



Mrs. Pritchow



Bill Pritchow

Cormicks for the winters. She also took in washing for miners. The last few years she was in Evansburg, she stayed in her house all year. Mr. Neuhold boarded with her while he worked in the mine.

In about 1941, she moved into an apartment in Edmonton, in the Acme Rooms. While she had had a very difficult time in her younger years, she really enjoyed her stay in Edmonton. She was not a demanding person and her twenty dollar pension cheque covered all her needs. Her housekeeping room cost eleven dollars and the remaining nine dollars covered her other necessities. She would spend her days sitting by her window watching the

goings on in the street below. The apartment block was at 96 St. and 102 A Avenue, where there was always some excitement.

Their son, Willie, worked in lumber camps at Park Court for a couple of years and then he worked in Paul Rhein's dairy for some time. He later went to the States and only came back for visits. Mrs. Pritchow died in the 1940s and is buried in Edmonton.

Hagen

August Hagen filed on the first homestead in the Park Court area in 1907. After working in a railroad tie camp at Tete Jaune Cache for a year, he returned to make improvements on the homestead. He cleared some land and built a log house and dug a well. Everything had to be done with no conveniences.

In 1914 he married the former Elsie Ohl. They had one daughter, Alice.

Mr. Hagen started raising horses. Every spring several young colts arrived. Many of these were traded to the Indians for clearing land. On one particular time, the Indians, who had a teepee in the yard, agreed to clear a certain piece of land for two colts two years old. On the night the clearing was completed, a terrific thunder and rain storm came up. The Indians were out all night trying to teach these colts to lead behind the wagon. In the ordeal, one horse broke its neck. They were very upset because it was not replaced with another horse.

In 1914, August built the first school in Park Court. He was also the poundkeeper in the district for many years.

In the 1930s, the government placed purebred bulls in the area to improve the cattle herds. These were replaced about every three years. The bull for the south end of the district was kept at the Hagen farm. A six foot high corral was built which also served for a place for the impounded animals.

In later years, Mr. Hagen tried a hand at tanning hides for leather. He built a building for this pur-



August and Elsie Hagen married in 1914.



Mr. and Mrs. A. Hagen and Alice on homestead in 1927.

pose. He made his own sets of harness sewn with home made lace leather. He also did custom work in his tannery. He built a large vat which was turned once a day, by a horse, to move the leather in the solution. It wasn't the sweetest smelling place.

After a short illness, Mr. Hagen passed away in November 1952, at seventy years of age. A year

later the farm was sold to Joe Rosadiuk. Mrs. Hagen moved to Evansburg. The last six years of her life she lived at the Mayerthorpe Nursing Home. She passed away in 1972 at the age of seventy-nine years.

Abel and Ida Bjornstad

by Hazel

My father, Abel Marcus Bjornstad was born in 1890 at Gilman, a district close to Spring Valley, Wisconsin, U.S.A. At the age of fifteen he went to work in the sawmills of northern Minnesota and the Dakotas. When he was seventeen he went with his older brother, John, to the lumber camps of Idaho and Washington. They worked in the camps until May 1911, when they decided to go up to Vancouver, B.C., to see what this foreign country of Canada was like.

At Vancouver they saw huge advertisements proclaiming "Edson is the next boom town of the west." Lots in Edson were being offered for ten dollars apiece so they each bought one, and then decided to go to see their investment.

They went to Calgary, then Edmonton, and finally out to Entwistle, which was a rip-roaring town at that time. They decided to take a look around this part of the country and liked what they saw. They filed on quarters northwest of Entwistle, in what was later to become the Gowanbrae District. They never did get to see their lots in Edson, but later heard that their location was way out in the muskeg.

Ida Ohl was born on a farm near Ulen, Minnesota, in 1897, and in April, 1911, her family immigrated to the Park Court area. Ida was thirteen and her brother Paul was fourteen at the time - there were no schools - so these two teenagers had a merry time riding horseback and cowback around the bush.

In 1919 Abel and Ida were married. The future looked so bright and promising as they moved into a new frame house on SW-20-54-7-W5. It was one



Mr. and Mrs. Abel Bjornstad



Arthur Bjornstad at 5 years.

of the nicest houses in the district and the farm had recently been bought from a Mr. Ohninger.

In 1920, a son, Arthur Marvin, was born. He was a robust healthy, happy boy and to Ida, the most perfect child a mother could have. In March, 1922, I, Hazel Bernice, was born, and they must surely have felt that the fates were smiling on them and their well balanced family.

Then in 1924, it was as though a wicked witch had cast an evil spell on their household and their hopes and plans were sent reeling! My mother was pregnant with her third child Archie Ivan, who would be born at home in December, 1924, after a very difficult labor. Post natal complications, which were not treated, followed. At the same time Arthur came down with rheumatic fever, and had to be taken to hospital. Helpless against her problems, her world started falling apart.

Arthur died in March 1925, just two weeks after his fifth birthday. It is impossible to understand the anguish and devastation a mother feels at such a time, unless one has experienced it first-hand. The self recriminations and hopelessness added to her own untreated medical problems made the load overwhelming. In August, Archie died and life lost meaning for her. She was taken to Ponoka Asylum, where at that time treatment of mental illness was minimal. She came out for a few visits but soon lost touch with reality. She never recovered.

My father, then with his home life ashambles, and a little girl on his hands, started working out, while I stayed at my Uncle John Bjornstad's home. My dad took on road foreman jobs in the summer, harvesting in fall and lumbering jobs in the winter. He worked on most of the main roads in the Evansburg and Wildwood areas. In summer holidays I would go out to stay at the road camps with him. I remember some letters he received addressed to "Mr. Abel, the Road Boss."

On two different occasions I spent a year on the prairies in Saskatchewan, with the Austrums, at Mantario. They had been neighbors of my dad in Spring Valley, Wisc.

In 1930, he committed the cardinal sin - he chose to live common-law with a woman he had come to care for. In the 1920s and 1930s a person could lie, cheat, and steal or defame your neighbor and still be accepted, but to openly live common-law was taboo.

Then, as now, people think a child does not understand when they discuss these things over their afternoon teas, but I can vouch from first hand experience that children - even to five and six year olds - hear and understand all.

My dad farmed with Mrs. Tito for most of the depression, while I went to school in Evansburg.

I completed my Grade XII in 1940. Our Grade XII class was the first one to be taught in Evansburg High School as a regular "taught class." There had often been students taking Grade XII subjects, who would come to school to study, and get some help with their lessons, but not a regular class. After Social Credit was elected in 1935, they raised the educational requirements for most vocations to the Grade XII level. Our teacher was Mr. Kelly and our class included Aleck Hutchinson, Christine MacLean, Ruth Bell, Lorna Bell, Pat Macphee, James Gylander, Tom Greaves, Ellen Conley and several others.

My dad continued to farm alone.

In 1942, I was twenty, and thought it was high time I was doing something on my own so I went to Toronto. I arrived there not knowing a soul and with seven dollars to my name. I went to the Y.W.C.A. who found me a housekeeping room for two dollars and fifty cents a week. I enrolled at Radio College of Canada and got a job in a restaurant, working from 5:00 P.M. to 1: A.M. for twenty five cents an hour. My dad sent me some money for tuition but I managed to support myself. During the first four months I saved enough so that in the second four months I only had to work on weekends. I moved to a cheaper room.

My diet of course was rather spare. For breakfast

I had a glass of milk for five cents. Lunch was a dinner plate of two sausages, peas, scoop of potatoes and a glass of milk - all for twenty five cents. At supper I could have variety, as I ate at the restaurant where I worked. On days I was not working I would have an apple for supper. Through it all I never lost a pound.

On graduation I was hired by the Royal Air Force Ferry Command (later Transport Command) to work in their signals office in Dorval Airport, near Montreal. Their job was ferrying planes to Britain. My job was sending and receiving messages by Morse Code to and from the various stations on the Ferry Command circuit. Some of the stations we worked were Gander, Nfld.; Goose Bay, Labrador; Prestwick, Scotland; Birdlip, England; Trinidad; The Azores, Nassau, in the Bahamas and others along the Gold Coast in Africa.

In 1944, I was transferred to Gander, Nfld., which at that time was not part of Canada. I remained there until the spring of 1946, when I returned to Evansburg.

Gander was a wonderful experience. Among the operators were several girls and boys from Western Canada who were overwhelmed by the facilities. There was a beautiful lake and sailboats at our disposal, a lovely ski hill, a fully equipped gym and the latest in movies several nights a week. We, from the backwoods of Alberta, were in seventh heaven, while boys from Montreal were having nervous breakdowns from the isolation.

In April 1946, I returned to Evansburg to stay with my dad, and in 1947 I married Fred Fausak. My dad had meanwhile rented out his farm and was doing a little supervisory work for the Improvement District. In the early fifties he bought a storage building from E.C. Purin, dismantled it and built a little house for himself in Evansburg.

We bought his farm and in 1956 we moved into the house in which I had been born.

My dad was a wonderfully kind, a sympathetic



Hazel Bjornstad



Mr. Abel Bjornstad

and helpful father, I could always count on him for help in babysitting or little jobs I needed done. He had the quality (rarely found) of being able to converse with even the smallest child, never in a condescending or patronizing way, but as person to person equals, so all children enjoyed his company. I often think now of how he must have worried while I was traipsing around Eastern Canada alone. He never complained.

He remained all his life a gentle, compassionate, though lonely man, and died on June 28, 1962. He is buried in Evansburg Cemetery.

Attitudes and treatment of mental illness have changed greatly in the last few years. Many pioneers lived out many of their years in asylums across the country, because the strains of solitude, loneliness, homesickness, or illness were more than their constitutions could bear. It was often a joke to those who were not affected, and a never-mentioned skeleton in the closet of those who were. A soldier who died before the battle was done was a hero, but the pioneer who cracked under the strain of his battle was often ridiculed. They all deserve a respected place in our history.

My mother died in 1981 and is also buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

John and Clara Bjornstad

by Hazel Fausak

John Bjornstad arrived in Entwistle with his brother, Abel, on May 24, 1911. He filed on quarters in what later became the Gowanbrae District, namely SE-25-54-7-W5 and NW-19-54-7-W5 (later owned by Fred Lamb and Louis Zollikofer) and now owned by Bill Semeniuk. He let these go and in 1917 bought SE-19-54-7-W5 from Rudolf Karrer, and the quarter north of it from C. Bentrud.

In 1916 he married Clara Ohl, and in 1917 he moved his family to the new farm. Hilda was born in 1917.

In 1914, John had brought out the first threshing machine, a Des Jones. He ordered it direct from the factory in U.S.A. and then was in Camrose when it arrived. He had it loaded on to a freight car and brought to Entwistle. It was run by a stationary engine. Those first few years he threshed from Brightwood to Padstow and Mayerthorpe - first stooks and then stacks through winter till March. He charged by "the bag" - presumably one hundred pound bags. One farmer who had recently come from Germany with his effects packed in huge

bags put his grain into these bags, each holding fifteen to twenty bushels. He insisted on paying by the bag. Needless to say the rate was changed to "per bushel" the next year.

Carl was born in 1919, and Ernest in 1922. In 1925 they moved back to stay at Ohls for a while so Hilda and Carl could go to Park Court School.

During these years, John and Abel operated a sawmill at various locations around the neighborhood. He was also in company with Jacob Winteler for a short while.

In 1926, the family moved to an acreage in Evansburg, where in 1927 Elmer was born. They also acquired the "Harmer Place" - the quarter section just west of Evansburg, presently known as the "Proehl Farm".

As the depression of the 1930s came on, they continued to farm, with horses, cows, pigs, chickens, etc. They had a dray business, did threshing, sawed lumber and did anything to make a few dollars - even moving mine houses.

The children all completed their educations in the Evansburg Schools.

During these times, theirs was a sort of stopping place for people who lived far out. Eastwoods and Stumps, who lived way down at Muskeg Creek would come in for a week at a time, sleep on the floor and generally taste civilization again. There was a barn for their horses and after a few days socializing they would go out to their homesteads again. Mrs. Wolff (Lucy), Mrs. Charlie Welsh, Mrs. Charlie Smith and Mrs. Paul Schmidge would often come in to spend a few days just to "get out" for a while.

Hazel, Abel's daughter, spent several years at their home.

Hilda, after finishing school, worked in Purin's Store for a couple of years. She married Sid Watson and moved to Edmonton. They had one son Don.



John and Clara Bjornstad



Mr. and Mrs. John Bjornstad's children Ernie, Elmer, Carl and Hilda.



Ernie, Carl, Hilda, Elmer. Seated are: Mr. and Mrs. John Bjornstad.

Sid was for many years head baker at Alberta Hospital, Oliver. Hilda also worked at Oliver Hospital as Institutional Service Worker II, until her retirement in 1982. Sid passed away in 1971. Don with his wife Fran, and four daughters Christine, SherriMae, Wanda, and Myrna, live in Calgary, where Don works for Midland Doherty.

Carl joined the Navy in 1942 and served until the end of World War II. In 1947, he married Betty Rauser. They have continued to live in Evansburg. (see Carl and Betty Bjornstad).

Ernie joined the Navy as well, in 1943, and served until cessation of hostilities. In 1951, he joined the army, to serve in the Korean War, until 1954. In 1959, he married Eve Weeks. They have two children, Fay and Shane, to add to Eve's four - Dennis, Delores, Dale and Debbie. Ernie graduated as a male psychiatric nurse and worked for twenty-seven years at Alberta Hospital, Oliver. He is now retired and lives in Edmonton. Fay has two sons, Robert and Christopher. Eve is a dietitian at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

After completing high school, Elmer went to work for the C.N.R. and then in the mines at the Coal Branch, where he met Lenore Ford of Edson. They were married in 1949. Elmer trained as a stationary engineer. In 1956 they moved to Lindberg, where he is presently employed in the Canadian Salt Mine. Elmer and Lenore had six children. Marvin and his wife, Heather, are both teaching. Lorna, who was married to Art Romanchuk, had one little daughter, Stacey. Lorna lost her life in a car accident in 1974. Mavis, married to Jerry Smereka, has one son Shad. They live in Elk Point. Kevin and his wife, Karen, have one daughter, Candace Jade. They live in Lindberg, where he is an electrician. Gary, a third-class stationary engineer and his wife live in Elk Point. Karen lives and works in Edmonton.

John Bjornstad was a true pioneer - always thinking, planning and inventing. He invented and got the patent for a non-skid rear axle assembly for cars or trucks. Obtaining the patent was a very dif-

ficult process, as he had to have blueprints drawn and a working model made to be sent to Washington and Ottawa. Asle Seppola, a babbitt expert, cast the gears from babbitt, and the model and blueprints were duly sent. The patent was received but before he could sell it, one of the big automotive companies made one only very slightly different from his. The working model is at present on display at the Pembina Lobstick Historical Museum, in Evansburg.

Undaunted, he carried on. In the mid 1960s he was working on a grain dryer - another of his dreams, scoffed at then, but in wide use today. His years caught up and he never finished his dryer.

His mind and methods were always a few decades ahead of the times. He pioneered confinement hog raising - before anti-biotics - but using concentrates and mineral supplements. In this also his ideas were often viewed with derision, but today the practice is used almost totally. The hog raisers of today owe a great deal to the John Bjornstads of yesterday, who gave all their time, money and efforts to smoothing out the wrinkles for profitable enterprises today.

Clara was generous to no end. There always seemed to be someone staying there - someone who had nowhere else to go. Maria Ohl, her mother, was cared for during the last eight years of her life. Clara seemed to have a miraculous pantry. She would sit visiting with her guests all afternoon and then go into her pantry and bring out a never-ending supply of food. She never seemed to be laboring over a hot stove for hours on end but day after day her pantry brought forth dish after dish of good food. It was always a mystery to her guests.

Clara was an avid camera fan. If a soldier came home on leave, or a building was being moved, or it was someone's birthday or any occasion of note, she would either be there with her camera or send someone to take a picture. We owe her many thanks for our collection of pictures at the museum.

John Bjornstad died in 1968, and Clara in 1981. Both are buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

Karl and Maria Ohl

by Hazel Fausak

Karl Ohl was born somewhere in Germany in the 1850s. Of his early life we know nothing except that it must have been a "hand to mouth" existence to have produced one so unscrupulous in achieving his own ends. He became a farm laborer.

Maria Frederika Becker was born in 1858 in the tiny village of Kircheilingen, in Bavaria, a southern province of Germany. Her family were well-to-do land owners in that area. She was educated in the lines considered suitable for young ladies of the time. She played the organ, was confirmed in the church at Kircheilingen - but never learned to cook or do menial tasks around the house as there were servants to do those.

It was to the Becker farm that Karl Ohl came as a farm worker.

He proceeded to woo the daughter of his employer and sometime in the 1880s, they were married. In retrospect one must wonder if his motives were entirely sentimental or did he perhaps see himself acquiring a share of the Becker estate?

In 1885 a daughter Clara was born.

Not one to overextend himself diplomatically, it is easy to believe that Karl did not try to endear himself to his wife's family, and in 1890 they were banished to America - never to return.

They were established on a well-equipped farm near Ulen, Minnesota, U.S.A. There three more children were born - Elsie in 1891, Paul in 1896, and Ida in 1897.

Maria enjoyed her life in Minnesota, as much as possible that is, considering that her husband was forever in some kind of trouble. They were in a German community and she made many friends. She learned the ways of a farm wife but never learned to speak English.



Mr. Ohl Sr. outside his first home in Park Court.



Mr. and Mrs. Karl Ohl and family



Mr. and Mrs. Karl Ohl

Karl carried on as usual (drinking, gambling, stealing if the need arose) much more openly than he had in Germany, with the result that in 1911 they had to leave that community.

He wanted to go somewhere where a man could live unfettered and decided that wild and woolly western Canada would suit him just fine. Land was cheap and life would be free!

After his creditors were satisfied, there was not a great deal of money left from the proceeds of the auction sale, but Karl with his four children set out across Canada. Maria was to stay with neighbors and he would send for her later.

They arrived in Edmonton in early April, where they bought four horses and some equipment. He filed on SW 23-54-7-W5, and the group came out to Entwistle, and the homestead. They soon built a crude log house. Their horses, being city bred, could not stand the rigors of homestead life and soon all died. They then bought some oxen to do farm work and a couple of riding ponies for transportation.

When Karl had not sent for Maria by fall, she surmised he was probably not going to send for her at all, so she decided to make the trip on her own. Since she did not speak English she had a note written by a neighbor, asking train personnel to help her make the trip to join her family in Entwistle. (We still have this note in our possession).

As this was in 1911, before women were considered persons, Karl probably felt that her presence out on the homestead would only be a hindrance to his lifestyle.

Here in Park Court the reunited family set about making a home with Karl Ohl keeping his corner of the district much alive with many of his bizarre antics.

One story was told of him walking home along the river ice with a bottle of his "favorite" in his pocket. It slipped and broke on the ice. Using a

piece of broken glass he quickly dished out a hollow in the ice and scooped the liquor into it. Then he lay down on his stomach on the ice and slurped it up. A man would be crazy to waste it!

He went barefoot from earliest spring to late fall. He could run through any manner of brush without hurting his feet.

His favorite dish was made by setting a pail of cottage cheese behind the stove and leaving it until it reeked to high heaven and assumed a coat of many colors. This he ate with gusto and relish! The rest of the family called it "stink cheese" and, needless to say, no one begged for a taste.

Another story of him was told by Mr. Bruch (who then lived on Paulduro's place). Apparently Mr. Bruch, with his team and wagon, had brought Karl Ohl and another neighbor from Edmonton, where they had acquired a new breaking plough. They were the envy of the neighborhood! Another neighbor mentioned to Mr. Bruch that he was going to ask Karl Ohl if he could borrow the breaking plow. "You may as well ask me" replied Mr. Bruch, "I was driving the team and wagon when they stole it just outside Edmonton."

In 1914, Elsie married August Hagen, a next door neighbor. In April 1916, Clara married John Bjornstad, and in April, 1919, Ida married Abel Bjornstad.

When Paul was old enough, he acquired the quarter directly south of their homestead. In the early 1920s they built a two story frame house on Paul's quarter. The family moved into that house, which still stands, and, though renovated and modernized, it is still being used by third and fourth generation Ohls.

Karl would often, while hoeing in the potato patch, lie down between the rows for a nap. There he was found one summer afternoon in 1927, by his granddaughter, Hazel, then five years old. She had been sent down to call him for lunch. He had died quietly in his sleep. He was buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

A seemingly cruel and insensitive man, little glimpses of kindness would sometimes surface in his behavior with his children or his grandchildren. He lived his life in his own style and took pride in what he was. We know he would want to be remembered as he was - not watered down to a "nice guy."

Maria moved to Evansburg to stay with her daughter, Clara. In 1932, being over seventy years old, and having been in Canada for twenty years, she received her first pension cheque - the enormous sum of twenty dollars. To her it seemed a fortune! She could finally contribute and not be a total burden. It was a godsend in those depression years.

She suffered greatly with asthma and rheumatism, and became bedridden in later years. Mr. Otto Sr. made a wheelchair for her, using the wheels from a discarded baby buggy.

On Dec. 11, 1935 in the morning, she called all her family to her bedside for a final farewell to each in turn, and then quietly passed away a few hours later - very happily. She is buried in Evansburg Cemetery.

Here were two people - complete opposites in mentality and principles - somehow by fate united in marriage. How many times she must have regretted her folly in succumbing to the wiles of the stable boy! How different life might have been! and how hopelessly filled with hardships it became.

Though an outwardly submissive and passive person who had no control over her husband's behavior, she did instil in all her children those qualities which she held dear. All four became kind, honest, "generous to a fault" persons who were never even known to swear.

They have left behind a progeny of nine living grandchildren (four deceased) thirty-five living great-grandchildren (two deceased) and many great-great grandchildren.

We, their grandchildren, are thankful that Karl Ohl made the decision to come to Alberta, so that we could be "born and raised" Canadians.

Why tell such a story? you ask. Partly because it is true although we only scratched the surface. Mostly because this was not an isolated case. The West was a man's world and not all men were kind, considerate, generous and loving in the treatment of their wives. Countless women suffered untold hardships and privations at the hands of drunken, brutal husbands. These stories are forever locked in silence for the sake of family pride. It was women's lot to suffer in silence, and often give her life in the course of bearing and raising children, along with heavy farm work. How discouraging it must have been to spend all week milking, separating, washing utensils, keeping the cream sweet, only to have the proceeds used to treat the boys at the bar.

To these women we pay a tribute - they were the unappreciated and unacclaimed martyrs in the winning of the west.

The Mathews Family

by Ruth Ann Dyke

George Mathews and his wife, Dorothy - my parents - came to Canada in 1912, from an apartment in New York City. Weary of big city life as well as my father's foot-loose employment as a travelling salesman-photographer for a post-card firm, they had responded to a glowing and widely advertised invitation (made by the Canadian Government) in the United States. This advertisement had offered rich virgin land for homesteading in glowing dream-like terms which captivated their interest and shaped within them a growing spirit of adventure. It made them believe that this great change would permit them to work together in a beautiful and fruitful environment, to establish a home of their own such as they had long wished for.

That their lack of background experience made such a venture rather impractical was never considered. Particularly so was the fact that my father, although a 'wiry' type, was not the physically strong sort of man that such a homesteading assignment should call for. Also, the only knowledge he had of farm work was that retained from memories of five early years of his life spent on a farm when a boy in



George and Dorothy Mathews with Ruth, 1916.



George Mathews with his trapping success in Alberta, 1913.

New York State - near Poughkeepsie, the small town where he was born on the 17th of November, 1875. As an orphan he had been moved from a 'home' to stay with a farm couple - Mr. and Mrs. Strong - for five years, between the ages of nine and fourteen years. He was assigned to share the farm and family conditions, also to do chores after school and on weekends. During those years he had not been interested and had longed for other conditions. By the time his fourteenth birthday came around, he had saved enough money from miscellaneous gifts and outside earnings to buy a seventy five dollar one-way train ticket to San Francisco (without sleeper), to where his eldest sister Minnie Johnson and her husband Frank lived.

Soon after my father's arrival in San Francisco - then a hilly city served by horse-drawn streetcars - Aunt Minnie had him apprenticed to a printing firm, so he could learn the printing trade and thereby prepare himself to help pay current living expenses and later to attain self-sufficiency in his own life.

From this training my father's future life would be greatly influenced, even after his and mother's move to Canada. It was always with him as a possible means of augmenting an inferior income (except during the Great Depression of the 1920s and 1930s, when tradesmen with even the greatest seniority were laid off rather than added to printing staffs).

The season of my parents' arrival in Magnolia is believed by the writer to have been late spring of 1912. Their personal and rather sparse household effects, tools and other basic necessities were subsequently transported ten miles north and west to their new homestead, situated astride the Pembina River, about half way between Entwistle and Sangudo, two miles east of the Park Court Post Office. The owner of the team of oxen which drew their wagonload of possessions was Roy Flesher, whose mother ran a general store in Magnolia and had provided my parents friendship, food, overnight accommodation and a chance to rest upon their arrival by train from Edmonton. (She was to do this again on many future occasions throughout the years which followed, before she retired and Roy Brown built a new store, nearer to the main road). As on an earlier trip, also made with the help of Roy Flesher when the location of the homestead was selected, the dirt roads were of deeply rutted mud - up to the wagon axles in some places.

Many problems had to be solved, even necessitating staying overnight with a farmer before the journey's end. The oxen were strong, however, and well handled. My parents often remarked that without them their load could not have been taken over the roads as they were at that time. My father had rented a saddle horse from Roy Flesher, for transportation until he could buy one of his own. It was a help on the trip as well.

The major portion of the homestead was on the east side of the river and this was where they would build their house. The land was covered with timber - mostly large white poplar trees. Even to make space to build the log house they planned meant that large building-log sized trees would have to be removed. Trees also had to be removed to let sunlight in, to prepare a place for a future garden.

For a man who had at one time owned and run a printing and lithographing business in San Francisco (lost in the 1906 earthquake and fire), and who had later made a living taking and developing photographs as well as selling the views taken as post card orders for a New York firm, this was a tall undertaking. And even more so for his wife - my mother - who had grown up in the protected atmosphere of a private school in San Francisco.

My father hired a bachelor, Harry Richard (pronounced "Rikard") who lived two or three miles north-east of my parents' location, to split logs and build their house, with my father's help. This man was a specialist in building log houses and understood certain ways of splitting and notching logs which proved to be a very effective means of ensuring a warm draft-free building. When making the roof, an extremely clever method of shedding the water was also used, which provided drainage by means of using split logs of correct length (from peak to eaves), vertically arranged toward the peak of the roof. The center-core hearts of the halved logs were first removed and the logs then placed with one hollowed half facing the sky and the other half facing down (partially overlapped), thus channelling the water into the upward facing half. This excellent roof lasted many years, until the building was eventually lost in an accidental fire.

While the house was being built and for one winter, my parents lived in a tent. Although it was erected over a wooden floor and side walls, the -50F temperatures were not easy to cope with. It was heated with what was called an "air-tight" heater (rather different from today's models) and burned a lot of wood.

When not working on the house, every spare

minute was spent on clearing land for a garden and to let the sun in so grass could grow. Meanwhile all food and supplies had to be purchased, quite often from other settlers, but also from the store in Magnolia. Roy Flesher was also hired from time to time to help with land clearing, as well as for other needs where horses and equipment were required. A considerable amount of root grubbing was done with pick-axes, the green wood being removed, piled with dry dead wood and left for a time, then burned within a fire guard when semi-dry.

Dry brush was always cleared away from building locations and haystacks as fires of unknown origin sometimes travelled the river banks and were extremely difficult to control. Their only advantage was that they sometimes helped clear the land. At other times they began burning and destroying the deep black loam. These fires were prone to resist measures of control and continued to break forth again and again, long after they were considered to be 'out.'

With their savings always being used for expenses and no income or return from the land coming into sight, my parents began (during the winter) to think of the value of furs. They constantly saw the tracks of coyotes and foxes on the snow-covered ice of the river below their house site, and they heard a constant chorus of coyote howling each night.

My father bought a .30-.30 rifle and on bringing it home he and mother secluded themselves one moonlight night where they could readily overlook the well-travelled paths on the river from atop the bank, some two hundred feet above the ice surface. They were sure they would see some of the owners of the tracks making their way to and fro along their highway and that my father's reliable marksmanship would nail a pelt or two for market. The only problem was that not a single animal came into his sights. Nor did they on any of the succeeding nights when the same wait was undertaken.

My father's mind then turned to trapping the animals, but his first efforts in this direction were just as unsuccessful. Other settlers also told him it

was impossible to trap coyotes and foxes, that they were too intelligent and wary to be caught. However at a later date, after the house was up and in use (likely the second winter), he made one more effort and this time he was to become successful. He answered an advertisement in one of the United States magazines he subscribed to, and bought a course of instructions on how to prepare bait and go about trapping coyotes and foxes.

The bait procedure was anything but a pleasant operation, involving the use of dead animals cooked in a mixture of spruce boughs and some other smelly things. All materials had to be handled with gloves and clothing previously impregnated with the solution. No human-touched item was to be exposed on the trail. Traps were boiled in the mixture, sleigh runners and my father's boots were coated with it, etc.

That winter my father caught around thirty coyotes and seven foxes (some of which were 'cross' foxes which brought a bonus price). Needless to say, he - a city man - had to also learn how to skin and stretch the hides, ready for market. The resulting cash from the sale of the skins brought much needed benefit to my parents at this very difficult time, and was helpful to some degree for a few succeeding years as well.

During the first several years on their homestead, my parents' only social relaxation involved visits with various settlers with whom they became acquainted. I cannot recall all the names, for there were many. Some do come to my mind, however: The Horz family lived beside the river, a few miles to the east. Mr. Kleofas was also located south-east of my parents' farm, toward where Mr. and Mrs. Bierman and their sons (later on, an adopted daughter as well) lived. (Two of the sons' names were Helmut and Ewald, but I cannot recall the name of the young son whose life was taken by the kick of a horse.) In the same vicinity lived Mr. and Mrs. Oldham, also Mrs. Oldham's daughter Grace Cowie and Alec Cowie by a previous marriage. I believe they were not the original settlers.

The Proehl family lived south-west from my parents, and there were Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Mattice and their two sons. The Mattices always boarded the school teacher, being conveniently located near the school.

A bit north of the Mattice family location were Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Greenwood and family, across the road from Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Greenwood - brothers who were quite different from one another but both fine people. Mrs. Bertram Greenwood later contracted T.B. and did not recover, despite her condition looking hopeful at times. Jim Stewart's farm adjoined my parents' on their west side. Later, it was owned by his brother Joe Stewart and wife Evelyn. Mr. Clark's farm was located just north of the Gilbert Greenwood farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Young, who ran the Park Court Post Office for many years, were likely the best known of my parents' friends. Then there were Mr. and Mrs. Harke and their family, who lived further to the north-west. The Bigland family had the farm to the south of Mr. and Mrs. Young. Later, it was owned by the Crago family. I believe the Biglands once had the post office at their home. Mr. and Mrs. Grapentin lived a little further west, but were not the original settlers, I believe. They were related to the Harke family, and had come from Europe to join their relatives in Canada.

Despite the natural barrier of the Pembina River running through my parents' land and their building location being on the opposite side from Park Court, they still had a stronger tie with the people who lived on the west than with most of those of the comparable area on the east side of the river. Stanger was less compact and located at a greater distance, by a more or less round-about road. However, they still visited settlers periodically in all the surrounding areas, even though maintaining a more active association with the Park Court group.

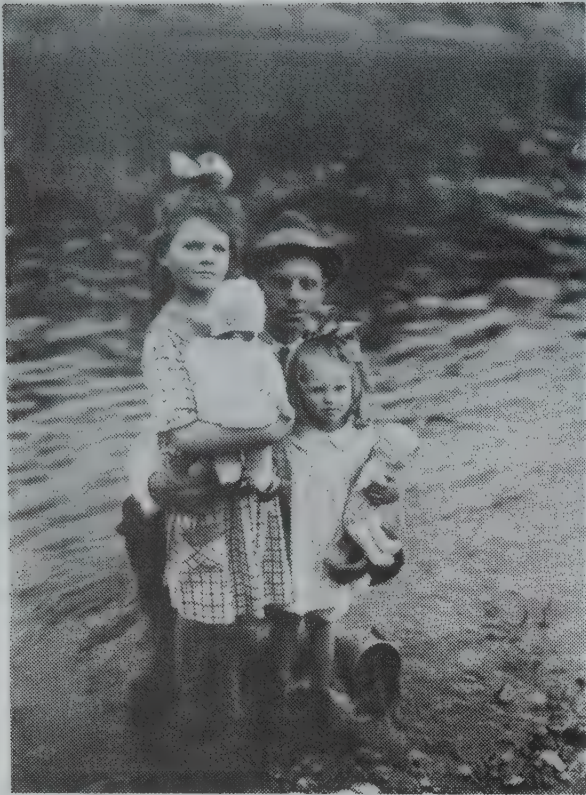
Because of the river, also the lack of roads in some directions, much walking was the order of the day - across settlers' land, rather than around it. Once when Mother was taking a short cut across the easterly neighbor's pasture, she suddenly saw a

large bull she had not previously noticed. He was pawing the earth over himself and had begun making threatening noises, facing her at not too great a distance. The comparative safety of the line fence was a good distance behind Mother. She knew that to turn and run toward it would invite him to follow, and that she would be no match for him. She knew she needed the help of a dog for she was strongly aware of the value of a good farm dog in controlling cattle. She had always depended upon their good and faithful dog, Tiger, to control their own cows. But Tiger was then with my father, across the river to the south - how far she did not know, for my father was headed in the opposite direction.

My mother took a chance and whistled for the dog, thinking it might at least remind the bull that a dog could be coming soon, and so deter him. It did have the desired effect to some extent, for he hesitated and listened and appeared uncertain. As it turned out the dog also heard the whistle, looked at my father, who told him to go to Mother. He dashed through the underbrush, down the bank and into the river, swam across and climbed the two hundred foot cliff-like bank on the other side, then ran a half mile to where mother was continuing to whistle while the bull was slowly advancing as he pawed his way forward. At the first sight of the dog approaching, the bull's aggressive threat was called off and he turned and departed, more or less hastily in the opposite direction. Mother and Tiger held a truly meaningful reunion.

In May of 1916, when I was due to be born, my parents made a trip to Portland, Maine, so my maternal grandmother could assist Mother, who had been very ill and often in bed for most of the previous nine months. As it turned out, there was a narrow escape for both Mother and myself, but it was corrected by a chance happening while the doctor was having his supper, before performing an anticipated operation (which then became unnecessary).

Some months later the three of us returned to the farm - after a winter in Edmonton, where my father earned a salary at the printing trade and Mother



Mr. Mathews and daughters Ruth and Dorothy in Pembina River, 1923.

took in a few boarders. This enabled them to cover the cost of replacing the cows and horses they had sold in order to make the trip to Portland.

A large portion of the homestead had been cleared for hayfields by this time, and other patches were cultivated for garden purposes - especially for the raising of onions, concerning which there was less competition since the only alternative product had to be brought in from British Columbia at an added transportation cost. A ten-acre section of the original trees was reserved at the north-east corner of the land, for the charm of their beauty, and remembrance of the farm's history. The area also provided some pasture.

Still, the land under cultivation was not enough to pay for all living expenses - only to ensure a supply of food and a place to live. Nor was the winter trapping sufficient to cover all cash requirements. (The complete size of the main portion of his land was only ninety three acres, and the lesser portion on the west side of the bend in the river totalled thirty acres.)

When I was two years old, my father made

financial arrangements with two bachelors who lived next to our farm on the east side (Mr. Schraig and Mr. McGee) to do the outside chores for Mother while he took employment at the printing trade in Edmonton during the winter months. He came home each week-end by train on the Canadian National. It stopped at Magnolia Junction, if required. This worked quite well until my father caught influenza at the time of the 1918-1919 'Flu Epidemic. When he came home ill, the neighbor helpers immediately decided that they wanted no more contact with the chores or anything else, much less any person at the location of our farm (which can be understood and forgiven under the circumstances). Meanwhile, I had contracted sleeping sickness which was also going its rounds. However, mine must have been a mild case for I recovered! Mother nursed my father and myself, then caught the 'flu herself, but managed to tend us between sessions in bed.

During the time of our illness the animals were allowed to eat from the haystack and I think both Mother and Dad performed some of the milking duties, despite their deathly illness. It was a real struggle - as it was also amongst many thousands of other sufferers at that time.

My father managed to clear most of the timber from his land as the years passed, and to raise many vegetables for trading - especially onions. The land was seldom self-supporting, although it provided good food and a place for a family to live next to nature's beauties. The cost in labor expended was heavy and continuous, for each person who lived there accomplished by hand what is now fulfilled by market gardening machinery in a small fraction of the time. My father continually had to earn outside cash for taxes, clothing and other extras in the city each winter. Mother depended upon Jim Stewart and other bachelors to help with the outside chores. Mr. and Mrs. Nels Knudson who lived on the north side of my parents' land were a great help to her in many ways as well.

We moved to Edmonton the winter before my sister Dorothy was expected (1920-21), so Mother

would be safe while my father was earning the needed cash to carry on. A short while after my sister's arrival on the 24th of June, preparations were made to move back to the farm. We took with us a new "Model T" Ford touring car. It had cost one thousand dollars and was paid for with my father's earnings. It was a delight to my parents, such as they had not experienced for many years.

Since the horses and other stock had again been sold, replacement animals were purchased at auction sales upon their return to the homestead. There are times when such purchases turn out well, but not always, and my father was essentially a city man. He could not always tell whether or not a horse would turn out to be a balker. But he and mother had a good recipe for handling such an experience when it happened on the road. My father held the lines in a good firm grip of control while Mother got out of the conveyance, took up a good handful of sand or dirt and shoved it in the stubborn horse's mouth. Then she hurried back and climbed into the vehicle and forthwith Dad released the tension on the lines and the animal always took off in a great rush, meanwhile striving to rid its mouth of all the grit! The idea of balking was thus put out of its head, for a few hours at least. Many were the laughs that we had over this trick, as we witnessed the method in use. (My parents had learned it several years earlier, when they'd rented horse and buggy transportation out of towns and cities in the course of Dad's work as photographer for the post card firm.)

Over the next four years, my father's vegetable gardens became greatly extended. The onions, especially, were increasing in value as compared to the British Columbia product. For the first time, he began selling for cash instead of by trade at the local stores in surrounding towns. And his onion sets were being bought by seed houses in Edmonton.

The winter of 1925-26 again found us in Edmonton while Dad was at work. This was in part at least to get me started in school. Although I was being taught at home, I was ten years of age and needed

the experience of school. There was no school in our district and the Park Court School was three miles distant, with a river to cross. My parents considered it to be unsafe for me to make the trip alone at my age. In Edmonton I was started off in the third grade, but was destined to soon move on from that point while attending other schools.

An unforeseen problem developed concerning my maternal grandmother in the United States who, because of age and financial difficulties, was needing some immediate help to clear up matters relating to debt-ridden property and other affairs. My parents as a result decided to make a trip to Oakland, California where she lived, to try to do whatever might be possible to help her. Meanwhile, they rented the farm to Mr. Bishop who lived a half mile east of my parents' location. He was to plant all tillable land to wheat, on shares.

So began a three-year period, during which our 1921 'Lizzie' made seven trips back and forth to California (after the first trip, with the benefit of a special gear-shift axle Dad had installed in the United States). Time was spent in both the U.S. and in Canada (on the farm), while my parents strove to sell some and save other properties of my grandmother, for the Depression had devastated her income.

During this unsettled period of time, I attended several schools part-term each year, mostly in the United States. My sister was in poor health while in California so did not attend regularly. But we both studied at home, whether or not we were in school. Teaching methods were strict, for Dad was determined about getting results.

In 1929 we moved what we considered to be permanently back onto the farm, bringing Grandmother along as well. This was also the year when Dad bought another 'Model T' Ford, for seventy-five dollars, secondhand, which he converted to a tractor for plowing and doing other work requiring a source of power. This was accomplished by purchasing a 'kit', which included a large pair of rear wheels with lugs and various gearing changes - all of



The Mathews family enroute from California to Park Court in 1928.

which worked satisfactorily when put together according to the instructions provided.

Grandmother stayed with us for five years before becoming so lonely for the other relatives that arrangements were finally made for her to return to California, to stay with other family members. During this interval, my father again relied largely on his garden produce as barter for food and other necessities, receiving only small amounts of cash for it here and there, along with small amounts for the sale of butter and cream. Occasionally, he was able to find an opening for a printer in Edmonton, but not often. These were Depression years. However, he was always proud of being able to get along without having to ask for 'relief.' His great concern came to be the overdue property taxes. However, a government plan came into effect by which they could be paid at a later date. He availed himself of this and so saved his land, which by then amounted to two homesteads. He had 'proven up' a second quarter-section on the west side of the river, just north of the original thirty acre portion of the farm, when the government had released the land for this purpose.

When striving to evaluate social activities wherein we were involved, I can't help but say that they certainly were not frequent by today's standards, yet they had a way of expressing genuine friendliness. Christmas celebrations, which were held at the Park

Court School, always drew out most of the settlers for this highly regarded get-together. However, my parents only joined them after I was of an age when they thought I should have more contact with people. After a few years of just witnessing the Christmas programs I was, at the age of eight years, permitted to participate in the school's Christmas program, even though I lived too far away to attend the school. This was a highlight in my life, even though I was in something of a daze while reciting 'The Night Before Christmas' as Dad had taught it to me. The chief highlight, though, was in my parents' life, according to my recollection, for I was very nervous in front of the crowd.

Some years later, I took Grades VIII and IX at Park Court School (the latter with the help of a Department of Education correspondence course, and assisted by an able teacher whose name I believe was Mr. Broadbent). My sister Dorothy also attended Park Court School, although she took her Grade IX in Magnolia. We both subsequently extended our education in later years, when finances became available.

As Dorothy and I became more involved through the school activities, my parents also became more interested in attending the box socials and other activities held in the school and, later, in a new hall where there was more space. They put aside some of their never-ending garden work for the purpose of seeing us enjoy circulating among happy, laughing people. Later, we sometimes took the team and visited the dances and socials by ourselves, when they could not go with us because of the weight of their chores. Also, they often grew tired when we stayed too long at the socials, which usually ran well into the morning hours. Since they did not dance, visiting and discussion were their chief interest, and these tended to be concluded after the midnight lunch.

Our religious instruction mostly centered around what my parents had been brought up to believe, my father being a Methodist and mother Episcopalian (Anglican). Ministers from various denominations held services at the Park Court

School on a rotation basis, mostly United Church and Anglican. We attended at times, but not very regularly. Mostly, we discussed and were taught at home, being impressed to practice religion in the way we lived our lives, according to the Bible and the way our parents presented it to us, which also included a lot of memory work. I am doubtful as to whether there were religious services available in the early days, before my time. Nor were they always a certainty in Park Court within the time of my memory, since travelling the mud roads was not always possible for a scheduled minister.

I believe it was August of 1936 when I decided that I would have to do something more about finding a meaningful place in life for myself, and to do this I went to Calgary, to be far enough away to not be tempted to run home at the first sight of difficulty. The Depression was still on, which was as a stone about everyone's neck, but I did manage to find work and to send my parents a few dollars from time to time.

General conditions gradually improved a bit as time passed. My parents moved to Edmonton in 1938 or 1939, so Dorothy could get a start in life. Dad found employment as a collector of bad debts for the Oliver Farm Machinery Company. Mother often travelled with him to the Peace River area and other points in Alberta - as she had travelled with him so many years before, in the United States. Dorothy became happily employed and involved with many young friends and an enjoyable social life. My help was no longer required.

The cultivated land of the farm had been sown to alfalfa. A certain amount of seed was harvested, but not as much as anticipated, for lack of available threshing equipment at the right time. Hay was sometimes cut on shares and sold. Also, the farm continued to be a favorite place for berry-picking vacations by family members for a few more years. But our mother and father were getting older and eventually, in the early 1940s they reached a decision, after my husband and I (who were married in July of 1941) convinced them from Vancouver that the West Coast would be a better place

for them to live, because of its milder climate. Unfortunately, a month before they completed their move, the government transferred my husband to Calgary. We were unable to extend to them the welcome we had anticipated. However, we did reserve our apartment for them at a time when living space was difficult to find.

The next year (1944) my sister, Dorothy, passed away of an aneurysm. She'd had a lesser one two years previously, in Edmonton, but had recovered. The last one was quite massive and came about in an overheated train which was stuck in the eight-mile tunnel at Field, B.C. The lack of available medical attention and other forms of anguish they suffered at that time remained with my parents for a long while afterward. They always remembered that Dorothy survived until reaching the hospital in Vancouver but that in the course of establishing financial coverage, the specialist went out for lunch and Dorothy died before he returned. She was laid to rest in Mountain View Cemetery.

Consequent to my parents' decision to sell their farm, which was bought by Edward Greenwood, they used the money to apply to the purchase of an older cottage on a half-acre piece of land situated in Burnaby, a suburb of Vancouver. It was lined on two sides with fruit trees, and some at the back as a bonus. My father soon had a large vegetable garden growing in the back yard, and a sea of beautiful dahlias and other flowers in front, all of which both my parents tended and enjoyed greatly.

In June of 1959, my husband and I visited my parents on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. We found a marked decline had taken place in their general health condition.

The next year, I used my vacation period to move my parents to Toronto, where we could give them much closer care and attention. Later, it was discovered that my mother had an illness which involved her bone marrow, blood (too many red cells) and kidneys, for which there was no cure. Her stay with us was all too short before she passed away on November 18, 1962. She would have been eighty

years of age on January 2, 1963.

My father was very lonely on his own, but remained active and went for long walks. Despite his increasingly troublesome kidney infection, which meant frequent trips to the hospital for treatments that he did not like, he lived almost three months past his ninety-first birthday.

He passed away in February, 1967. My parents' last earthly resting place is in Pine Hills Cemetery, which is located in Scarborough, Ontario - a suburb of Toronto.

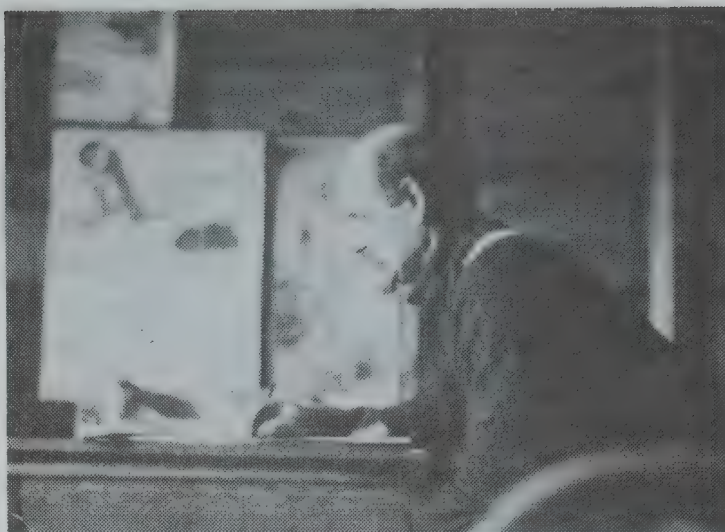
Although the following information does not fully belong to the Park Court homesteading history, it relates to our family history. I therefore feel I should mention that my husband, Richard Martin Dyke, passed to spirit on June 26, 1977 of bone cancer, after enduring six years of various intensities of suffering with its unmatched potential for pain. Now alone, the sole survivor of this branch of our family, I look forward with longing toward the day when I can find the means of arranging a visit to the old-time location where nature stimulated so many dreams and hopes in the minds and hearts of my parents - George and Dorothy Mathews.

The Horz Family

by Louis Horz

My name is Louis Horz and I am seventy-eight years old. I came to Alberta in 1913 and have lived in Alberta since then. My father, Louis Horz, Sr., came to Canada in 1912 from Germany. He left Europe when war was threatening. He landed in Nova Scotia and worked in the mines there for awhile as this was the work he did in Europe. He met a man there named Evans who was coming west. They ended up at Evansburg which was named after this "Mr. Evans".

In 1913 my father sent for us - my mother, myself, one sister, Hedwig, and two brothers, Fred and Eugene - to come to Canada. A brother Carl was born later. We arrived in Quebec on June 13. About a week later we landed in Entwistle. The



Mr. L. Horz Sr.

station was about a mile from the hotel. The mail man took us there to meet Dad.

We walked across the two-hundred-foot-high bridge with no railings, to Evansburg after dark. It was a good thing we couldn't see how far down the river was!

The rest of the summer we watched the Canadian Northern Railroad being built through Evansburg. It was all done with shovels and crowbars. We had never seen colored people before, and there were many of them working there.

We lived in a small log shack until fall. There were new mine-company houses being built. We got to move into one of them, which we thought was really something.

Dad then took a homestead in the Park Court area, about twenty-two miles by the way the river winds.

By then there was a sawmill. We got lumber that had to be floated down the river to the homestead. We took it down the river bank and put it together like big rafts. Dad cut a long pole and put me on the first raft, and he would follow. When I got out into the swift water, I was scared. I'll never forget that in my whole life. When we got to the homestead we had to get the rafts out of the river, take them apart and carry the boards to where the house would be.

We decided to stay with a neighbor across the river. We could see the light but had no idea how far it was. An electrical storm came up that night, too. Dad said "Follow me". I was ten years old and short for my age. We crossed the river and the water got deeper, almost up to my neck. It isn't funny when all you hear is water roaring all around you. It was midnight when we got to the house of a fellow by the name of Kasting. We got him out of bed. He gave us dry clothes and food.

The next morning we started to walk back to Evansburg. There wasn't even a trail. We just had to head straight across the bush. I was very tired. I'm glad to say that was the last trip we made that summer.

The first winter was something else - so cold, and we were not used to snow like that. The mine houses looked nice but were cold. The first time mother scrubbed the floor, the scrub rag froze to the floor. The houses were built on blocks. We banked the snow around the walls. It did help some.

Dad was working at the mine, and in the spring he had us check every day to see if the ice in the river had gone out, because he was anxious to get back to the homestead. The day came that the ice went out. Dad had two rafts ready. First he and I went with one raft and took some groceries and building supplies. He figured there was no use for me to walk back to Evansburg so I stayed out at the homestead in a small tent. He would be back in a few days, but the weather turned bad and one raft got stuck on a big rock. I was out there alone. The days weren't bad but at night, when the coyotes howled and the owls hooted, I was really scared.

When the raft hung up on a rock, everything went into the river and had to be fished out and dried. They had to re-load and start out again.

The building supplies and groceries arrived on the rafts. It was time to start building a house and digging a well. We were busy the rest of the summer. We carried the logs out of the bush, built a log

house and filled the cracks with mud. We were lucky we had feather beds.

The next summer we got a cow and some chickens and a dog. It didn't seem quite so lonesome then - at least not for us kids. Mother of course had quite a time.

The first summer Dad got a fellow from over in the hills to come and break some land. He called it an acre, (our land was river flat) but when we learned more about measuring land, it wasn't half an acre, but we had a garden and potatoes.

Some people around had horses but we didn't until two years later. There were no summer roads. You walked out to Evansburg and brought your things back in a pack-sack. In winter you could make some sleigh trails.

In the summer of 1915, a man by the name of Blasius brought out a big steam engine. He was going to do sawmill work and land breaking. He came across the Pembina River at the Kleofus place. It was the only crossing in the summer time. He came from Entwistle, through Magnolia and when almost through the river, he got stuck. He worked for days to get it out, with the help of everyone in the country. Some came with oxen and horses to help pull. It was like a picnic. People even pulled on ropes. Later he moved the outfit onto the quarter next to ours, and started sawing lumber. It was quite exciting. Later he broke some land on a quarter by the school, now owned by Edward Greenwood. Blasius had land over on the other road where Mike Semenyna now lives. He was going to dam the creek and start a brewery. I don't think there was a kernel of barley in the country.

There wasn't much land breaking, as people had to clear the land first. People didn't have the money to have lumber sawed, so his plans didn't go too far. There were some small fields of grain but they were all seeded and harvested by hand.

The first post office was six miles away. It was called Matthew's Crossing. Then it was moved to

Bigland's place and finally ended up at Youngs. We used to go there often and enjoyed the sing-songs there with Mr. Young playing the piano. There were no radios or gramophones then.

Our main source of food then was rabbits. They were around by the hundreds. There was a family not far from us who had eight boys. They dug a ditch around the hay stack and covered it with small sticks. Sometimes they would catch two or three hundred rabbits a night. They skinned them and used the hind quarters. People depended on them for food.

In 1914 they built the school. My sister and brother went to school off and on, depending on roads and river. Dad worked in the mine and I was elected to do the work at home, so what schooling I had I got in Germany. There weren't many German kids around, so we soon learned to speak English.

In 1917, Dad took me with him to work in the mine in Evansburg. They were short of help on account of the war. I was glad to be able to earn some money. They imported a lot of Japanese people for help. In the summer we kept on clearing land.

In the winter there was a whist drive and dance at the school every two weeks. Bill Smith played the guitar and mouth organ at the same time. We were a musical family and liked to play. We started with home made instruments. We took over playing at the dances and kept it up until 1937. After the hall was built and a club was organized to run it, they bought us instruments. We repaid them with our wages for playing, which were raised to four dollars a night. We were no experts but everyone enjoyed it and had a good time.

Of course there were always the good old Christmas Concerts in which all pitched in and helped.

One time we decided to have a stag party. We brewed some home-made beer - bottles of it. We had the party at a bachelor's house. There must have been about twenty-five of us. We put a little



Harvesting in 1937. L. Horz built wheel to carry binder through wet field.



Weirs house in 1944 flood washed down on to the flat.

too much sugar in it and when the bottles were opened, it popped out all over. We emptied it into big jugs. The party went on until morning, when a truck came to load some pigs. The boys went out to help load. In those days the pigs were marked with paint to tell them apart. These had green paint. By the time the pigs were loaded, the boys were covered with green paint. When they came back into the house, they decided to make a cake. They



The "Letitia", the ship Mrs. Horz and children came to Canada on, later used as a hospital ship in the Second World War.



Mr. and Mrs. L. Horz.

didn't wash their hands, and when they got through, the cake was quite green, but it was a lot of fun. In those days you had to create your own excitement.

By 1928 we had more land, a car and a full line of machinery. The roads were improving. Then came the "dirty thirties". In 1928 we got one dollar and twenty-five cents a bushel for wheat hauled to Gainford. In 1930-31 it went down to fifteen cents a bushel for wheat and six cents for oats. We made a cart out of the car as we couldn't afford to buy tires for it.

Lucy and I were married in 1936. Lucy soon became involved in community affairs. She was very active with the Ladies' Guild which was a women's club of the time. They organized whist

drives, dances, showers and picnics. This added greatly to the quality of life during the war and after the war years. She also produced a "Show place" garden, and was a number one cook.

We have two daughters; Mrs. Sylvia (Jack) Little and Mrs. Louise Paulsen, both in Edmonton, two granddaughters and one grandson.

My sister, Hedwig, left home when she was eighteen. She worked at various places and finally married Bob Wood from Cadomin. He joined the army in 1940 and went overseas. He came back in 1945 after he was wounded. He came back on a hospital steamship which turned out to be the same ship on which we came over from Germany. My sister had come over on the same ship when she was five years old.

Later I sold the farm to Joe Rosadiuk and moved into Edmonton.

The Proehl Family

from a tape by Alfred Proehl

The Proehl family, father, mother and three children, Eric, Alfred and Milda left Germany in the middle of May, 1913. The trip on the boat took twenty-one days to Halifax. It was a small cattle boat. They were supposed to come across on a cattle liner - a ship liner - and it had run into difficulty before it got to Hamburg to pick up passengers. A different boat was available - actually a freighting boat made into a passenger boat. The boat they should have come on beat them by just a few hours. They unloaded first and the Proehls' boat had to wait until they had passed through customs. From there they went by train to Winnipeg and stayed for a week or so. Then on to Edmonton.

They arrived at the Entwistle station the first week in August, in a box car - family, furniture, three horses, a cow and two pigs. They were met by Mr. Kasting. Everything was loaded on two wagons for their trip to Park Court. They went by back trails almost to Magnolia around Round Lake to the Kleofas crossing on the Pembina River.



Mr. and Mrs. T. Proehl with children Eric, Alfred and Milda before leaving Germany in 1913.

It was a very hot day. The children, feeling the heat, took off their shoes and stockings and put them in a wooden pail underneath the wagon. When they crossed the river Mr. Kasting said "What did you lose? There is something floating down the river." It was their shoes and stockings. They came to the Bierman place. Mrs. Bierman asked them to come in for coffee but the men decided to go on as they had only a mile more to go.

Mrs. Proehl and Alfred stayed for coffee and took some along for the rest. By this time the wagons were unloaded and Mr. Kasting came back for them. He told them to hurry as Eric had jumped off the wagon onto a broken beer bottle and cut his foot badly.

The roads were winding and zig-zaggy with corduroy over mudholes and wet places. It took a whole day to go from Park Court to Entwistle one way. They had to stay overnight and come back the next day. Mr. Proehl was the first one to make the whole trip in one day. He started out at 5:00 A.M. and landed home a 10:00 P.M. He broke all records by doing that trip in one day. When Eric was fifteen and Alfred fourteen they did roadwork by their place to help pay off the taxes, ("two boys equal one man.") It was their first experience building roads.

About 1917 or 1919 Charlie Smith was road councillor. He asked Eric and Alfred to work on the road south of the Paulduro place. On the road they met W.J.J. Smith, the previous councillor. He said, "Where are you boys going?" They told him they had been told to start opening a road to go west. "Well" he said, "You might as well go home. There is so much slough and muskeg there, you will never be able to go to Evansburg through that country." They went ahead anyway.

Afterwards Gilbert Greenwood was the councillor and Jacob Winteler was the road foreman. They used horses on a slip and scraper to drain the mudholes and made a road. Muskeg was ditched and corduroyed. The road was built eventually south to Evansburg and north to Rochfort. Alfred worked on the roads for years - first with four horses and later with eight horses on a grader.

The homesteaders got together in the spring of 1914. There were so many children they decided it was time to build a school. So they put it up for tender. Mr. Hagen got the job to build the school for eight hundred and forty dollars. He supplied the lumber (from B.C.) and the labor. He, his wife and Clara and Ida Ohl built the school. Park Court School was opened in the fall of 1914 and ran for six months until all the money was spent. Then it was closed for a year.



Mrs. Proehl and Arthur Proehl, 1936.

The first teacher was a man. Then came a young lady teacher who stayed only a few months. Then came an older teacher, Mrs. Reid, and the poor old lady tried her best but the boys were getting too big for her and played tricks all the time.

She insisted they had to go out and get dry firewood to start the fire in the morning. The boys would bring in green wood. She would say "but that won't burn." Well the boys said "You can't hear the heart ticking - it must be dead." In those days there was no money to pay a janitor so the boys had to start the fires no matter how cold it was. The girls did the cleaning up and sweeping.

The district had their own school board and collected taxes. During the thirties money was scarce - a lot of taxes were worked off by bringing firewood and helping with the upkeep of the school. There were a lot of teachers available so there was no trouble getting a teacher even if they did not stay long.

In 1919 another son, Arthur, was born.

The Proehls got their first threshing outfit in 1919. It had an eight horse power engine on its little wagon and a twenty-eight inch separator with a self-feeder and a straw carrier. That went on until 1926 when they bought a threshing machine run by a Fordson tractor. It had a self-feeder and a straw blower. They carried on until 1939 changing threshing outfits several times. They went out custom threshing every year.

Times have changed. Alfred recalled the old days when it was New Year's Eve. The farmers would go outside with shot-guns and tin cans. Everybody made a noise. Every quarter had a family so there was a lot of noise to welcome the New Year and let others know they were all alive.

Dances were held in the school. The Horz family had a home orchestra with instruments made by hand. Everybody had a wonderful time.

The Proehls bought their first car from Mr. Coutts in 1929. That car did a lot of travelling,

helping out many in the country, especially ladies going to the hospital. Alfred recalled five or six who had to be rushed to Edmonton in a hurry, to have their babies. They sold that car in 1934 to Mr. Fred Everett - it went thousands of miles and never had a bit of trouble.

Milda married Lorne Astleford in 1928. Eric stayed on the farm until 1928 and then started working at Turner Valley. Later he went to B.C.

Alfred married Betty Attwood in December, 1933, and continued farming until 1949. Then he and Betty moved to Evansburg. Mr. Proehl senior passed away in 1939. Mrs. Proehl lived in Evansburg for a time. She died in 1960.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Proehl moved to a farm just west of Evansburg in the fall of 1949. They farmed there until Mr. Proehl's death in August 1981. Mrs. Betty Proehl now lives in the Sunshine Lodge in Evansburg.

Elisha and Emma Mattice

Emma and Elisha Mattice came from Ontario, moving west to try to find a better life for their family. Their first farm in the west was at Innisfail.

In 1912, they moved to Padstow and in about 1918 they moved to Park Court. They rented the Keen place (NE 21-54-7-W5). In 1921, the crops in that area were completely hailed out, so they moved to NE 27-54-7-W5. After a few years they had a sale and moved back to Ontario.

The west kept calling and within a couple of years, they were back again, this time buying SE 34-54-7-W5.

Their house was of hewn logs with plastered cracks. The inside was lined with lumber and then papered.

Mrs. Mattice was an expert at needlework and crafts. She could make "anything out of anything," so that their house was always a showplace of crafts and fancy work. She often took needlework pieces,



Mr. and Mrs. E. Mattice with sons Reg and Luther.



Mr. and Mrs. E. Mattice, Mr. and Mrs. R. Mattice and daughter, Jean.



Mrs. E. Mattice with some of her handiwork.

such as embroidered runners and crocheted doilies around to sell to Evansburg housewives. One of her well known articles was a crocheted basket, stiffened with sugar syrup.

Mr. Mattice was a jack-of-all-trades who had a little training as an undertaker. He was often called upon to serve in this capacity in the early days of Park Court. He also was auctioneer at most local sales.

They had three sons, Luther, Cecil and Reggie.

In January, 1929, Cecil accidentally shot and killed himself while out hunting or checking his trapline.

Luther, when grown, moved to B.C. and was married there.

Reg married Stella Stadnyk of Stanger and continued to live in Park Court.

Since their home was across the road from the school, Mrs. Mattice often boarded the teacher. Some of the teachers she boarded were Miss Attwood, Miss McIvor, Miss Vowels, Miss Anderson and Miss Rentz.

In about 1938, the Park Court United Church was built just across the ravine from their home. Mrs. Mattice was a staunch supporter.

Mr. Mattice died in 1951, shortly after having a farm sale. He is buried in Edmonton. Mrs. Mattice then moved to Evansburg, where she lived until her passing in January, 1962. She is also buried in Edmonton.

Luther had one son, Kenneth, who lives in Cranbrook, B.C.

Reg and Stella had three children, Jean, Robert and Donald.

Jean and her husband Bob Spreen live in Whitecourt.

Robert and his wife Linda live in Fox Creek, Alberta.

Donald lives in Edmonton.

There are nine great-grandchildren and two great great-grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Stroshin

by Lena Harke

Louis Stroshin came from Warsaw, Poland and first went to Buenos Aires, Argentina. From there he worked his way north as far as Calgary, Alberta.

In Calgary he worked for a few years and was married. They had two children, Henry and Lena.

When times got hard, he decided to take a homestead. With their few necessary possessions, they came up to the Evansburg area and took a homestead SE-9-55-7-W5 in the Park Court District in 1918. It was very hard work to establish a paying farm, competing with the moose, bears, coyotes and lynx.

A few years later Mrs. Stroshin died in childbirth. Mr. Stroshin and the two children struggled alone for a while and then Mr. Stroshin married again.

In this marriage he had two sons, Edmund and Walter.

All four children attended Park Court School.

Mr. and Mrs. Stroshin separated with Mrs. Stroshin moving first to a farm about one mile north of Evansburg and then to Evansburg where she died in 1966.

Mr. Stroshin sold out and moved to B.C. He married a third time and had another son and daughter who reside in B.C.

Henry married Annie Mendiuk. They had two daughters - Sylvia and a baby who died. Henry died in the middle 1950s.



Henry Stroshin

Lena married George Sturm of Rochfort Bridge who was killed in a farm accident. They had one son, Walter, and four daughters, Amy, Marlene, Betty Anne and Velma. Later Lena married August Harke, who had been their next door neighbor in childhood.

Edmund worked for many years with lumber mills and construction machinery. He lived for several years on the farm just north of Evansburg. Presently he lives in Evansburg.

Walter is married and has been farming in the Sangudo area for many years. They had three boys.

John Dubetz

John Dubetz lived on NE 4-55-7-W5. He came out in the early 1920s and often acted as interpreter for the immigrants of Ukrainian origin. He helped build the Park Court Farmers Community Hall. He usually worked out during the summer and harvest and spent his winters at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bierman and Otto Bierman

by L. Bierman

Mr. Ernest Bierman, his brother Otto and their mother came from Germany to Canada in 1909 to the Park Court area of Alberta.

They homesteaded the NW 24-54-7 W5 and worked clearing and building a log house. In 1913 Ernest Bierman returned to Germany to bring out Freida Rieder for his wife. They were married in New York.

Their first son, Helmut, was born in 1914, and Ewald in 1916. A third son, Ernest, was born a few years later but he was kicked by a horse and was killed at the age of four years.

In 1925 they adopted Ruth.

The children all went to the Park Court School. Mr. Ernest Bierman was on the school board for some time and was always interested in the school.

He was a very good farmer and was always very proud of the fact that they could grow almost everything they used for food.

They continued to farm until Helmut was married in 1938 to Lucy Wolff. Then they moved to Edmonton. Two years later they moved back to the farm when Ewald married Madeline Wolff. They returned to Edmonton and lived there till Ernest Bierman passed away in 1956.

A year later Mrs. Bierman sold the house and moved to Nanaimo, B.C. where she passed away in 1961. Ruth was living there at that time, but she then moved to Colorado.

Mrs. Bierman Sr. and Mrs. Bigland were the ones to name the area Park Court.

Otto Bierman remained a bachelor and farmed for many years, after which he moved to Edmonton. He passed away in 1959.

Helmut had three children, two girls and one boy.

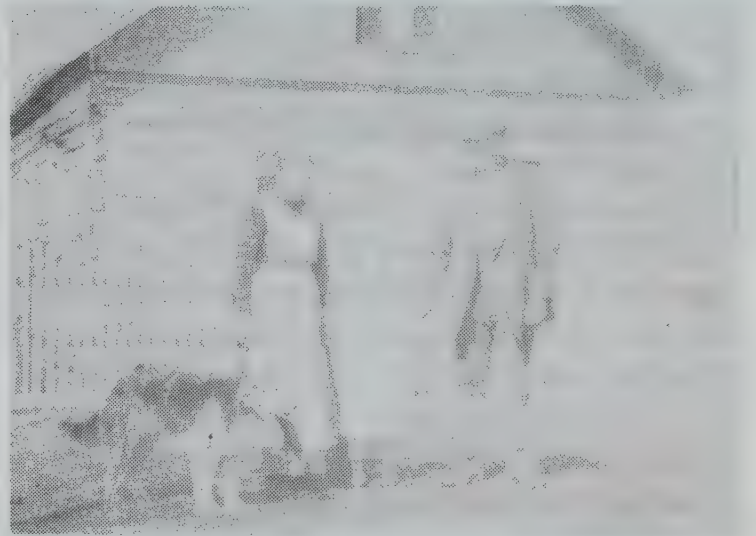
Ewald had two children, one girl and one boy.

Ruth had four children, two girls and two boys.

Ewald passed away in 1947. Helmut passed away in 1980.



Otto Bierman, 1924.



Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bierman and son Helmut on homestead in Park Court, 1915.



Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bierman, Helmut, Ewald and Ernest Jr.

Josiah Stewart

Josiah Stewart was born in the County of Cork in Ireland, January 15, 1891. He had two brothers and three sisters. In 1913, he left his home country and arrived in Canada on Easter Sunday. He had an uncle who lived in Hamilton, Ontario and that was where he stayed. He obtained a job with the Oliver Plow Co., a subsidiary of the International Harvester Co. of Hamilton. From there he went to a job with the Proctor and Gamble Soap Co. When World War I broke out he joined the Canadian Army as a machine gunner and went overseas with the First Canadian Machine Gun Battalion. He was in some of the bitterest fighting that took place, like the "Somme" and "Ypres". This is one part of his life that Mr. Stewart says very little about. He lost his brother, George, on the battlefields of France in 1916. He was overseas until the end of the war and then returned to Canada.

His brother, Jim, who had homesteaded in the Park Court district, died in the flu epidemic of 1918 and left his homestead to Mr. Stewart. When he came west after the war, he worked for a time for the C.N.R. in their Calder yards in Edmonton. He returned to Hamilton, Ontario in early 1920 where he met and married Evelyn Hannigan. They arrived in the Park Court district on May 21, 1921 with their baby daughter, Margaret, who had been born on March 24. A frame house was built to replace the log shack on the homestead. The first winter, the family lived in a house on an adjacent farm as their house was not complete. Mr. Stewart also started to erect a barn to take care of the livestock. As the farm buildings overlooked the Pembina River and the trees sloped down to the water, Mr. Stewart called his farm "Forest Heights".

On July 21, 1923, a son, James, was born to complete the family. In the early twenties, the closest railway point was Magnolia and that was where Mr. Stewart had to deliver the cream to be put on board the train for Edmonton. It was a long, dark trip as the train left at 2:30 in the morning. To get to Magnolia, he crossed on the ferry at the place called Matthew's Crossing.



Josiah Stewart on binder with Jim Stewart on tractor.

As with all the pioneers, there were good times and bad, but they got through them all. In the winter of 1937, a young man, George Tomkinson, and Margaret Stewart were married. Years later, they moved to Robb, Alberta where Mr. Tompkinson lost his life in an accident. His widow later married Jack Thompson. She again lost her husband and now lives in Edmonton.

Mr. Stewart served the district as a member of the local school board and as a councillor for the Pembina Municipality. In this position he worked with and helped many of the new settlers who were coming into the district. He also spent much time and energy in seeing that new roads were built for the benefit of all. When the Depression and the so-called dirty thirties came, it was the same for all the farmers and settlers.

By this time he had enlarged his land holdings to three quarters and was kept busy clearing and increasing the number of acres under cultivation. By milking cows, growing grain and keeping hogs, Mr. Stewart weathered the hungry thirties.

When World War II broke out, Mr. Stewart again joined the Canadian Forces, but this time, as a cook with the South Alberta Regiment. He was not sent overseas, due to his age, but was stationed in various places in Canada. When the regiment was sent overseas, Mr. Stewart was discharged.

He continued to farm throughout the forties with the help of his son, James, who had married Millie



Jim and Millie Stewart's wedding at the Park Court United Church. Included are Lillie Zollikofer, Joe Stewart, Mrs. Zollikofer, Jim Stewart, Millie Stewart, Mrs. E. Stewart, Mr. Zollikofer, Margaret Blumer.

Zollikofer in 1946 and continued to live on the family farm. In 1943, Mr. Stewart bought his first tractor, a John Deere, Model "B". In 1952, a bigger tractor, and also a combine, were purchased to handle the land work and harvest.

In the mid fifties, James purchased a farm of his own adjacent to the home place and continued to work the land on the home farm. Mr. Stewart raised livestock on the home place until the late sixties. He quit farming in 1968 and went to Ireland for a visit as he had not been back since he left in 1913. When he returned, he made a trip to the U.S.A. to visit a niece. A short time later, he suffered a stroke which led to further strokes that made it necessary for him to go into a nursing home. Mr. Stewart is now residing in the Edmonton Veterans' Home. He is still active (although in a wheelchair) in handicrafts and in life around him. He celebrated his 91st birthday on January 15, 1982. His wife, Evelyn, passed away in Edmonton on January 22, 1982. Mr. Stewart has twenty grandchildren and thirty-five great grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hogg

by Stella Wilson

Mr. and Mrs. Hogg came to Canada in 1921. They had only one child, Bill, who remained in England to finish his education. He came to Canada when he was fourteen.

I met them when I went to live in Park Court in

1931. They lived on the homestead next to ours. They were very good neighbors - always willing to lend a hand.

Mr. Hogg was a Scotsman and was a tinsmith by trade. He was a good singer and used to sing at dances in Park Court. He was very proud of his animals and had one mare that lived to be twenty-seven years old.

Mrs. Hogg was born in England and had learned to be a dress maker. She could design dresses without a pattern. She often helped me with my sewing.

Mr. Hogg was often Santa Claus at the school concerts.

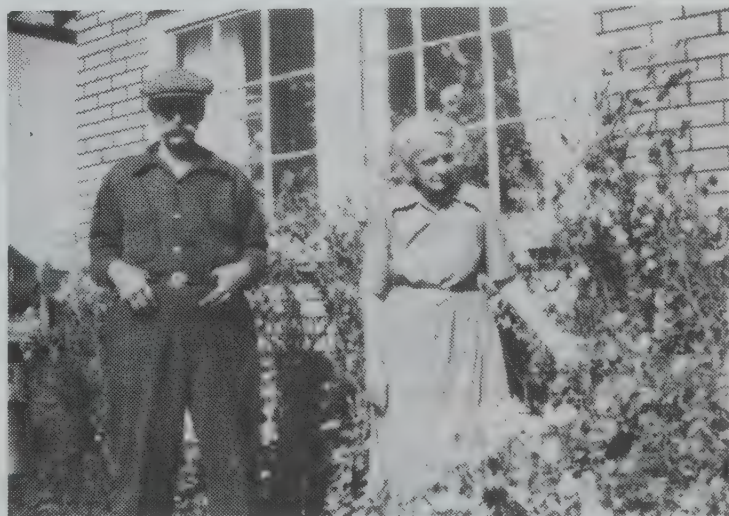
Bill Hogg married Grace Cowie and they had five children - four boys and one girl.

Bill and Grace farmed in Park Court, next to his father's place. He was a great musician and often played at the dances at Park Court.

When the war broke out he enlisted and served overseas in the Armed Forces. They sold their farm and moved to Edmonton.

Bill and Grace were divorced. Three of their boys have died and are buried in Edmonton.

Bill remarried and with his wife Mary, lived in St. Albert. They had one son William Brian.



Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Hogg, Sr.

Mrs. Hogg Sr. died in 1955, and Mr. Hogg Sr. in June 1961. Both are buried in Edmonton.

Bill developed multiple sclerosis and after a very long illness passed away about two years ago.

Mrs. Hogg Sr. had a brother, Jack McCracken - a bachelor, who also farmed in the Park Court area. He died in 1963.

The Harkes

In 1910 Henry Harke came to the Evansburg area from Kiev, in the Ukraine. In 1913 his family followed. This family consisted of his wife, Johanna, two sons, August and Reinhold, and a daughter, Dena.

They took a homestead four miles south of Evansburg in 1914. Richard was born in Evansburg in 1914, and Elsa was born in Entwistle in 1918.

Mrs. Harke used to tell of one time while they were living in Reno, she was on her way to the outhouse and a big bull moose blocked her way. It refused to budge for the longest time - it was a matter of staring each other down.

In 1919 the family moved to Park Court - near the Horz farm.

In 1921 they acquired the SW-10-55-7-W5 and moved to the northern part of Park Court.

In 1924, Mrs. Harke's older daughter Gertrude (Mrs. Alfred Grapentin) and her family came to Canada.

Most of the time Mr. Harke was employed at the Evansburg Coal Mine, as mine blacksmith, while the boys did the farming. Mrs. Harke's garden was the showplace of the district and their home was the site of many community parties.

In 1926, tragedy struck, when Dena was killed in a freak accident. While the family was sawing wood she was struck by the ballast wheel of the saw,



Mrs. Johanna Harke.

which had somehow come loose and was hurled through the air.

In 1934, Henry Harke moved to Rochfort Bridge to open a blacksmith shop. Mrs. Harke followed a year or so later.

In 1934, August married Kathleen Miller. They moved to the quarter just south of the home quarter, namely NW-3-55-7-W5. Here they built a log house and barn. The floor of the barn was made of log blocks standing on end. Their first two children, Helen and Harold were born while they lived there.

Kathleen and August and family moved to Rochfort Bridge in 1938, to help Mr. Harke in his shop. While in Rochfort Bridge, four more children, Dale, Barry, Darlene and Wendy, were born. Kathleen died in 1963.

The family continued with their blacksmith shop for many years until Mr. Harke's death in 1956. Mrs. Harke died in 1960.

August later went to work for Smyl Pontiac Buick in Mayerthorpe. Several years later he married the former Lena Stroshin, who had been a next-door neighbor when they were children in Park Court. August died in 1976.

Reinhold married Irma Steiert and they remained on the home farm in Park Court. They had four children, David, Eileen, Shirley and Kenny. Reinhold died in 1964. Irma retired to Evansburg where she still resides.

Rick joined the army in 1941 and went overseas. In Holland he met and married Willi Minet. She came to Canada after the war and soon charmed the whole family. Rick and Willi farmed in the Padstow area for twenty-five years. They have now retired to Edmonton.

Elsa married Roland Ferguson. They live in Vancouver.

The Blasius Family

by Margaret (Blasius) Morrison

Michael and Marie (Schuch) Blasius came from Europe as very young persons to the eastern United States. They met and married in Cincinnati, Ohio. Their first son, Frederick Walter, was born near Lexington, Kentucky. There they heard stories of the potential of the vast and largely empty land to the north. In 1910 they immigrated to Edmonton, Alberta. Lillian Elizabeth was born there in 1912.

The young couple planned to get onto the land which was so plentiful in Canada. She had come from a family that traditionally cultivated orchards. Both were young, strong and full of hope. A quarter section at Park Court was the next stop, but not before Margaret was born - en route - in the hotel at Entwistle in 1914.

The family slept under the wagon for the first few nights until a shelter was thrown up that sufficed until a home was erected. And Mother learned about cows. At first, she approached the cow with a cup and a great deal of apprehension, backing away as soon as the cup was filled. The cow turned its head and huge puzzled eyes followed this strange greenhorn. An amused neighbor introduced her to the intricacies of milking in one lesson. But the story lives on as a family joke.

Our father worked hard. He cleared the land the hard way, working from dawn to dusk with horses and human labor. He planted and tended crops. They flourished, but he could not find markets. There were no marketing boards or other facilities in those days, and transportation was slow and ar-



Mrs. Blasius, 1954.



The Blasius Children.

duous. So their hopes were dashed and a lot of hard work went for nothing. One happy note to that sojourn was the addition of Dorothy to the family in 1916.

Next came Great Falls, Montana, where Father worked as a master mechanic in the huge Anaconda Copper Works. For a long time the plant had the highest smokestack in the world, a forerunner to today's anti-pollution devices. In 1917, Mary Anne joined us and in 1918, Hildegard Faye saw the light of day as one of the "Blasii."

In 1919, it was back to Canada and Evansburg, where the coal mine at that time was said to be one of the most advanced, technologically, in the province. We lived at the Old Town Site where a

sprinkle of houses bordered the bend of the Lobstick River. Here Charles Oscar, Harry, Hazel and Ted were born between 1919 and 1923.

In Evansburg most of us took our elementary schooling, swam in the river and skated on its ice, picked wild berries and discovered a lot about the flora and fauna of the region. We acquired an acreage between the mine and the high bridge spanning the Pembina River and commenced building a house, but it was never finished. We moved to Edson in 1926.

When the 1929 crash broke across North America, we were growing up. Fred was working for the Wilson Flour & Feed Store, Lillian went to Normal School and Margaret to Business College. When World War II broke out, Charlie, Harry, Hazel and Ted all joined the R.C.A.F. Dorothy worked for the contractors building the Alaska Highway. Mary worked with the U.S. Army Engineers in Edmonton which led to her transference to Washington, D.C. and later San Francisco, where she married. Hilda became a R.N. in Toronto and then a Public Health Nurse in Alberta. Lillian taught Home Economics.

At war's end, Charlie went into contracting in Edmonton, Harry to MacMillan-Bloedel at Powell River, B.C. and Margaret started freelance writing. Hazel, mother of four, and Mary, mother of two, live in California and Hilda in Mesa, Arizona. Lillian, Dorothy and Margaret live in Victoria, B.C. and Ted, still the super salesman he was when he delivered papers and was everyone's pet, now represents Sterling Drugs in Edmonton.

Our father died in 1950 and mother in 1976 at the age of ninety-five. The oldest son, Fred, died in 1975 in Phoenix, Arizona, where he operated a dry cleaning plant.

Everyone in the family married. We have twenty-seven grandchildren between us. Four are lawyers, one a dentist and one a medical student. One girl has her own real estate company in Colorado, another is the first female chief naturalist chosen by

Parks Canada, and the youngest is studying computer sciences. We lack space to detail all the progeny, but it would be fair as an all encompassing statement, to say that they are all hard working young people of intelligence and integrity. Grandma would be proud!

What do we recall from the far off days of our beginnings? Well besides the snows and cold walks to school when we were stuffed into long underwear and suffered the hardships all pioneers endured, there were good times, too, in those simpler days, and people to remember. One such person was Joyce Want, a generous teacher, who gave her evenings to teaching us the Sailor's Hornpipe, the Irish Jig and drills for concerts.

We also remember the cook on the work train that was in Evansburg to take up the Canadian Northern trackage. As small children, we took vegetables from our acreage to the cook and he dispensed huge slabs of pie and great round cookies to us. We loved him.

We remember when the wooden bridge across the Lobstick right near our house, was taken out by an ice jam. The noise was deafening and the power of crashing ice floes was a dramatic sight. And the time a great tree in our yard was cut off cleanly, at the knees by lightning, is also remembered.

There were times several of us nearly drowned in the river and only pure luck saved us. We kept our secrets for about twenty years. There were black bears that shared the blueberry patches with us on several occasions but thankfully they weren't hungry, at least not for us.

The garden acreage we had at the confluence of the Lobstick and Pembina Rivers was shared with the nibbling deer. We crawled to the top of the bank to observe a huge old bear perform his ablutions. In the year of the many caterpillars, we lived in a wholly green and slimy world for a few weeks. And we remember the lynx that screamed in the night at Eunice Keen's farm home.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could get together and re-live some of the memorable incidents again?

Edward James Caudle

by Richard Greenwood

Edward James Caudle was born October 29th, 1858 in Evesham, England. His four children were also born in Evesham; Donald in 1890, Norah M. on November 13th, 1894, Albert 1892 and Constance (Connie) February, 1897. After Edward Caudle's wife died, they decided to come and live with his son Donald Caudle in Canada. They came by boat from Liverpool. They arrived on July 15th, 1914 and got here two weeks before the war broke out. They had already booked passage on the boat S.S. Calgarion, so they had to come.

Don Caudle met them. The girls were wearing long skirts and they all walked from Entwistle to Don's homestead in Park Court, through a bush trail. Edward Caudle homesteaded on NW 35-54-7-W5, and built a log house.

He was Justice Of The Peace, Commissioner of Oaths and Sunday School teacher. He also took the place of the minister when one was not available. Services were held in the house or school.

Albert Caudle taught school in Park Court in 1915 or 1916 and around the Edmonton district during the war. He went back to England after the war and stayed.

In 1935 Edward Caudle sold his farm to Gilbert Greenwood. Two acres in the south-west corner of his farm was given to the community for the church and cemetery before he sold the farm.

Norah M. married Gilbert Greenwood.

Constance (Connie) married Stanley Dollman and lives in Edmonton near her son James.

Donald married Clara Bolderson, a school teacher who taught in Park Court.



Home of Mr. E. J. Caudle, Park Court, 1915.



Edward J. Caudle

Edward Caudle left Park Court to live with his son Don and in his later years lived part time with his daughter Connie Dollman in Edmonton. He died March 31, 1943 and was buried in Edmonton.

While Edward Caudle lived in Evansburg his grandchildren, Edward and Molly Greenwood lived with him and went to High School in Evansburg. Molly kept house for him.

The Winteler Family

by Doris Winteler

My father and mother, Jakob and Katerina Winteler were both born in Mollis, Switzerland, my mother on May 27th, 1875, and my dad on August 6th, 1876. They grew up in the little town of Mollis. They were married on October 31st, 1899. They came to Canada in March, 1911, on the steamboat

S.S. Sardinia. They landed at St. John and then came by train to Edmonton. With them came their son, Kasper, who was born in Mollis on April 2, 1904. After staying in Edmonton for two years, they moved to a homestead in Park Court. They lived in a two-room log shack for several years. In 1918 Dad bought another quarter of land in the southeast corner of Park Court. This quarter had more open land than the homestead which was heavy brush. But it was all stones and nothing grew on it, not even hay. In July, 1919, a daughter, Doris (myself) was born. In 1922 we moved to the Joe Keen place which Dad had rented. Dad bought the place the next year. It was the N.E. 21-54-7-W5.

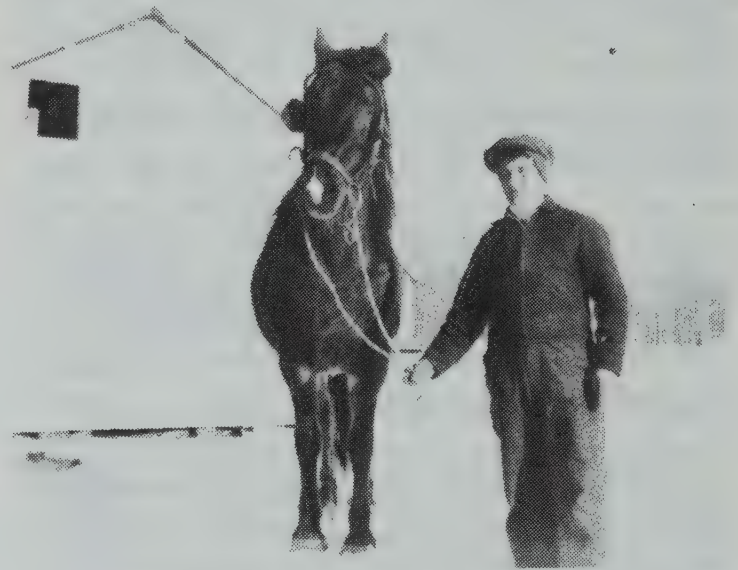
Dad's homestead was S.W. 21-54-7-W5 and my brother, Kasper, took the homestead east of it.

In the late fall of 1922 we moved to the Bjornstad's sawmill. My mother and Mrs. John Bjornstad were the cooks. My brother was the sawyer and Dad hauled logs to the mill. In the spring of 1923 we moved to Mr. John Bjornstad's farm. The two Bjornstad brothers and my dad, and also Mr. Paul Ohl, had formed a company. Dad was to take care of the cattle and the farms. But at the end of April my brother came home one night and said he would no longer work at the mill. That was the end of the sawmill and farm company. The next day we moved back to the Keen quarter.

In the summer of 1923, while we were living on the Keen place, a heavy rain storm came up one afternoon. It was like a cloudburst. The old log house had a door on the south side. As the house had no foundation, it was right on the ground. Since the door sill was level with the ground, the water came in through the door, and into the kitchen. It ran across the floor and from there into the cellar. By the time it stopped raining the cellar was full of water. In the middle of the storm, Mother said, "What about the eight gallon can of cream?" Dad and Kasper ran out to look in the well, where they kept the cream. They could have saved themselves the trouble. When they reached the well it was running over, and the cream can was upside down. After that the cream was never kept in the well again.



Jakob and Katerina Winteler with Doris in front of the old farmhouse in 1936.



Kasper Winteler and his riding horse, 1941.

That fall Mr. John Holden fixed up the log house on Dad's homestead. The logs for the house had been put up in 1916 but were not finished. In October, 1923 we moved back to the old place and into a very nice house.

In 1928, Dad bought a threshing machine and a tractor. This twenty-two inch Waterloo thresher, which was made of wood, was used for custom threshing in the district for many years. It threshed in the Park Court area sometimes as late as November.

In November, 1928, Dad bought a sawmill and planer from Mr. John Bjornstad, (this outfit had been owned by Mr. Fred Knight of Entwistle at one time.) My brother, Kasper, was an expert sawyer

The Edward Rumpf, Sr. Family

by Rose Spallin



Kasper Winteler with binder and Rock Island tractor, 1946.

and the sawmill and planer were kept busy for many years. In the winter, the farmers brought logs to saw. Many houses, barns and granaries were built with lumber sawn by this mill. It also sawed the lumber for three churches in the Park Court District, and the Park Court Hall which was built in the winter of 1933-34. The mill burned down in the spring of 1936, but it was rebuilt and worked as before. It was used until the farm was sold.

We also had a grain grinder. On Saturdays the farmers would come to have their grain ground into chop for their livestock, and sometimes wheat into flour for bread.

In January, 1943, my brother joined the Canadian army, but did not go overseas because of his age. Upon returning to the farm he kept on farming.

Dad passed away in February, 1947. In February, 1950, we moved into a new house, which was very comfortable. By 1950 all the work was done with a rubber-tired tractor. The years rolled on and in February, 1960, Mother passed away. In 1962 my brother and I moved into Evansburg. The farm was sold. Kasper became caretaker of the Evansburg Cemetery and greens-keeper for the Evansburg Golf Course. In August, 1972, he passed away. He is buried in the Legion plot in the Evansburg Cemetery.

I am still living here in Evansburg.

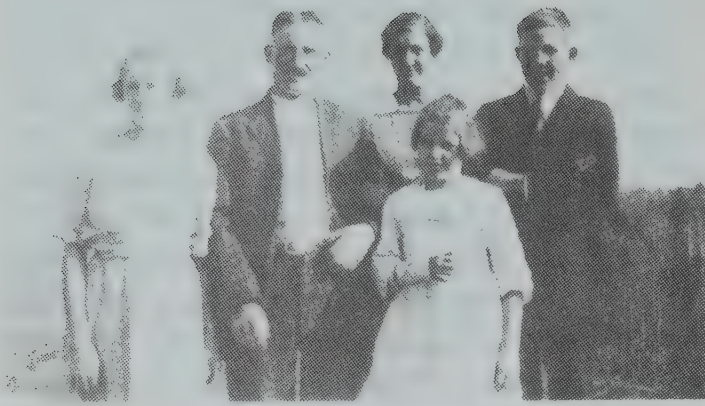
Dad came from Germany and Mother from Sweden. Both worked in Montreal and met at a club for newcomers. This was in about 1903. Dad decided to go to London, Ontario, where he got a job with a company called George White and Sons, which made cars and steam engines. He worked for thirteen years before coming to Alberta in 1918. Dad got a job in the roundhouse of the C.N.R. as a machinist, electrician and steam engineer.

After being in Edmonton a few years, he decided to buy a farm at Park Court. He knew nothing about farming, let alone how to harness a horse. We arrived at Evansburg in the spring of 1922 with a carload of furniture, stock, horses and wagon. The first night we spent at the home of John Bjornstad. They took us in and fed us and found a place for us to sleep. Dad also hired a Mr. Frank Kendall to help with the farm as he was going to keep working at the C.N.R. There were a lot of bad roads travelling through other farms.

There were three children, Rose, Edward and Dorothy. We had a lot of good times there. We had dances and card parties during the long winter evenings.

The post office was in the home of Matthew Young. We had no church close by so we were not able to attend. Dorothy was the only one who went to school at Park Court. I think the Mattice family lived next door. The first year, I was to go to Edmonton to work, but Ed wanted to go so he went. He came home in the spring and helped on the farm. When my turn came to go, Ed wanted to go too, so Dad sold out and we moved back to Edmonton. Mother died in 1937 and Dad passed away in 1947. Both are buried in an Edmonton cemetery.

I worked in Fort Saskatchewan, and met Alfred Spallin. He went out to Windfield, B.C. and sent for me in May, 1929. We were married on June 21, 1929. We moved back to Fort Saskatchewan in 1933. We farmed awhile at Busby, Alberta and at



Mr. and Mrs. Rumpf with Rose, Edward and Dorothy in Park Court.



Rudolf Weist and Edward Rumpf.



Rose Spallin (Rumpf) and Mrs. Rumpf (Kleofas) 1951.

Anton Lake, Alberta. We came back to the Fort in April, 1947. We had three daughters and one son.

Eileen White has three sons, a grand-daughter, Jennifer, and a grandson, Darren.

Wilma Walker has a daughter (Shiela Steglitz, who has a son, Scott) and two sons, Brian and Brent. They all live in Surrey, B.C.

Mavis Kreamer has a daughter, Keri, and two sons, Dean and Jay, living on a farm near Sherwood Park.

Keith Spallin has two sons, Craig and Colin, living on an acreage near Fort Saskatchewan.

Alfred Spallin, my husband, died July 11, 1965. I moved into Dr. Turne Lodge for Seniors in about 1979 and like it very much.

Dorothy Rumpf married Les Campbell and had one daughter. Dorothy died November 13, 1935. Les Campbell's folks in Jasper raised the girl who is now Mrs. Robert Ekroth of Entwistle.

Fred Everett

Fred Everett was badly gassed in the first world war, and deafened by mortar fire. He came out to this area first to work at McCormick's Lumber Mill, and stayed around the camp most of the time, as he was always a sick man and did not have a pension.

After he received a pension he bought SW 4-55-7-W5, in Park Court and built a house on it. He was a good carpenter and worked on several houses in the district. He bought a bright red convertible coupe, which became the best known car in the district. He often made taxi trips, especially for people needing to go to the doctor.

He loved to give the girls a thrill by going around the curves in the road fast - like a roller coaster. He would have the top down most of the summer.

He died in the late forties.

The Klein Family

Mr. and Mrs. Klein, with their four children - three boys and one girl, arrived in the Park Court area in 1926. Klein Sr. lived on Abel Bjornstad's place, while the young couple lived on John Bjornstad's across the road. The daughter married a Mr. Ells and they had a daughter while the family lived here. After a few years they moved south again.

They brought a herd of horses with them - around thirty or so and tried to bring them across the railway bridge. The horses' legs were badly skinned from slipping through the openings between the ties. They were almost across when a stall stallion panicked and jumped over the edge. They found him down the bank.

Aart van der Linden (The Dutchman)

Aart van der Linden came to Canada in April, 1929, from Utrecht, Holland. He took as his homestead NW-16-54-7-W5 and lived there until 1943.

He weathered out the depression with a few animals with which he had a rather violent relationship. He had a loud voice and most of the neighbors could tell if things were going well with him or not.

He had two horses, Stella and Nell, who seemed to enjoy vexing him, and must have been very intelligent, as they had to understand both English and Dutch. When he berated them in English it was unprintable, so when he became so frustrated he had to use Dutch, only the horses knew what awful things he was saying.

He seemed to be calamity-prone while on the farm. One time his cows broke into his house and spent sometime in there. What a mess!

He went into the potato business. He had twenty acres at Zollikofers, twenty acres at home and four acres at Abel Bjornstads. There was a good crop and he invested in potato digging machinery, a big root house, etc. However, the depression had by



Wood Sawing Crew

(L—R) Louis Zollikofer, Pete Marysiuk, Abel Bjornstad, John Rusin, Aart Van der Linden.

then set in and there was no market, unless he gave them away, which he did with most of them.

When the war broke out, the Dutch Resistance Army heckled him to join their forces. He resisted their threats and hurriedly took out his Canadian citizenship papers. He then went to work in lumber camps and never came back to Park Court.

He was a good neighbor who could always be counted on to help when needed. He had been well educated in Holland where his family had been in the milling and shipping businesses. He sold his farm to Semenynas.

Paul Ohl

Paul Ohl was born in Ulen, Minnesota, U.S.A. on December 16, 1896 the only son and the third of four children of Karl Ohl and Maria Becker Ohl. The family moved to Canada in April of 1911, when Paul was fourteen years old and settled in the Park Court district.

He and his younger sister Ida spent a lot of their time on horseback or steer back; dodging the brush and trees, and scaring their older sisters much as youngsters do today.

But, only a short time later, the lure of adventure called Paul to the army during the first world war but he never served overseas.



Paul Ohl, 1918.



Original Ohl house built in 1918 still being used.



The Paul Ohl Family
(L—R) Henry, Lily, Carl, Mrs. Ohl, Mr. Ohl and June.

In 1918 when he was old enough he took his homestead NW 14-54-7-5. A two storey framed house was built and the Ohl family moved over from the old log house. This house is still in use today, with modern conveniences, by third and fourth generations of Ohl families.

Between the war and the depression of the thirties Paul, besides farming worked in the Bjornstad Bros. Lumber Mills, as well as in several central Alberta locations with steam engines. He bought the first Model T. Ford in the Park Court district in 1926.

Paul's father (Karl) passed away suddenly in 1928, leaving him and his mother on the homestead. His three sisters were married several years prior to this, and lived in the district as well.

In 1933, he married Anna Kruschelnicke and brought his wife to live on the homestead.

One year after the arrival of their first son, Carl Harold in 1934, Maria Ohl passed away.

Between 1936 and 1946 four more children were born to them - son Henry Paul, daughter Lillian Caroline, son Anthony Ernie (deceased at three months) and a daughter June Patricia.

In 1930, another quarter section of land was acquired immediately south west of his original homestead SE 15-54-7-5.

In the early 1950's sons Carl and Henry began their musical careers and the Ohl farmhouse was the community studio, out of which the band "The Smokey Mountain Boys" was formed. The farm was the meeting place for youth in the area. Many impromptu "jam" sessions were held.

During this period Paul purchased a threshing machine and the Ohl's harvested for close neighbors for several years.

The family left home . . .

Carl farmed and supplemented his income by

working in different camps and hotels. He married Irene Tuftin of Park Court, Alberta in Nov. 1957. Later he obtained his mechanics certificate.

Lillian left in 1956, and took jobs as a stenographer in Edmonton. She married Gordon Bennett of Edmonton in June, 1960.

Henry moved to Edmonton in 1955. He worked and obtained his Stationary Engineers certificate. He married Mary Winnichuk of Highvale, Alberta in October, 1960.

The last, June, went to N.A.I.T. in 1964 and obtained a certificate in Chemical Technology. She married Denis Leyden of Entwistle, Alberta in June, 1966.

Henry bought the S.W. quarter of land and Paul and Annie bought a home in the village of Evansburg.

They farmed until the crop was taken off the land in the fall of 1965, and then moved into their new residence. The original homestead was purchased by the Carl Ohl family which was the third generation of Ohls to live on that farm.

Paul and Annie worked as caretakers for the Legion Hall in Evansburg for eight years after they moved into the village. They enjoyed their retirement years with friends and neighbors.

Paul passed away June 9, 1982 at the age of eighty-five years. He was predeceased by his youngest son Anthony in 1945, and his eldest son Carl in 1981.

Paul was the last surviving member of his generation of the Ohl family. He also was the last of the original settlers and had lived here for seventy-one years.

History of Rudolf and Wilhelmina Weist

In 1922, Rudolf Weist came to Evansburg from

Austria with his cousin Rudy Kleofas to work on his Uncle Frank's farm which was situated north of Evansburg by the Pembina River in the Park Court district. During the early years, he worked in the Evansburg Coal mine as well.

In 1932, Wilhelmina Wonsch arrived to work at housework in the Kleofas household and this is where she met Rudolf. They were married on March 28th. Their first home was a tiny log cabin shown in picture number one. They built a bigger two-story home on a quarter section of river-bottom land near the Kleofas farm right beside the river. This home is shown in picture number two. Otto was born to them in 1934. They made a living by growing their own food and by milking cows. Very little had to be bought from the store which was a lucky thing because a trip from Park Court to Evansburg was an all day affair by team and wagon. Many times the road was not passable in winter and spring.

Wild game was plentiful, especially by the river, and Rudolf was a good shot. Shells were very hard to get and his motto was "You don't shoot unless it is a sure thing, and then you only shoot once!" Their diet included a lot of deer meat which had to be canned in jars on a wood stove. There was no deep-freeze nor refrigerator - just an ice house with blocks of ice cut from the river and covered with sawdust and shavings. Many hours were spent cutting meat off bones and chopping it into small pieces to pack into canning jars. It was all hand work, too. Rudolf was able to pay the taxes by trapping and skinning muskrats and weasels, and by skinning coyotes and the odd fox.

On March 10, 1936, Frank Kleofas passed away. His wife, Alvina, left the farm to return to Germany for a while and then returned and went to Edmonton where she remarried. In September, 1936, Walter was born to the Weist family. In the years to come, the boys walked three miles to the Park Court School through the fields and bush in all kinds of weather. They would meet the three Farrell girls at the top of the hill and also little Sylvia Horz. They would all trudge off in a long



Mr. and Mrs. R. Weist



The Weist home on the Park Court farm.

line through the snow with Otto and Shirley Farrell in the lead to break trail while Pat Farrell came in the rear to prod the little ones to see that they didn't fall too far behind. Many times they would be soaking wet from walking through deep snow or tall wet grass. They would have to sit in damp clothing most of the day after having tried to dry off by standing close to the wood stove for a while. It was pretty hard to get dry when even the ink was frozen on the desks.

Before going to school, the boys helped with the chores and did the same at night so they didn't lack for exercise. On weekends, wood and coal had to be gathered. Down by the river were some coal banks where they had to dig it out by hand. The only "front-end loader" in those days was little Otto and Walter with their wooden apple box. They would scramble up the bank to fill the box with coal and then push it down to be loaded into the wagon for the horses to haul home. Every spare minute, they would hike the woods shooting squirrels to skin for money to buy something they needed. Their first bicycle was bought from the proceeds of squirrel hides and money earned from helping the neighbors with chores.

In 1942, Mary Ann was born into the Weist family and soon joined the parade to the Park Court School. Then in 1944, the flood came and nearly ruined the farm. Their house was well-built and strong so it managed to remain standing but small buildings and stockpiles of fence posts were washed away. What a mess! They cleaned it up with much labor and rebuilt fences and buildings.

One day in 1948, Rudolf took the family to the Holly Springs picnic and went on into Evansburg to do some business. On the way, he met Newt Osborne who owned the farm two and a half miles north of Evansburg. Newt wanted to sell him the farm but wanted cash within a week. Rudolf went home that night and talked it over, checked his "bank" (the tobacco can over the door of the wood shop), and decided to buy it.



Otto and Walter Weist on the first farm.

The kids were heartbroken. They cried and

begged to stay on their beautiful river side home but Dad knew best and felt they had to move closer to town. For two years he and Otto worked on the new place to build a house and other buildings while the rest of the family kept the Park Court farm going. Then in August of 1950, they left Park Court and moved to their present home near Evansburg.

In 1952 Shirley was born. In the years to come, Mary Ann and Shirley rode the school bus in luxury to school in Evansburg, (no more plodding through the fields and bush). The boys took over doing most of the farm work. They progressed from horses to tractor and gradually got machinery to go with it. In 1953 they got their first three quarter ton truck from Milt Yandt, the machinery dealer in Evansburg. They joined the 4-H club and raised registered Holstein calves and registered seed grain and forage plots. The Department of Agriculture set up an experimental station on the Weist farm to test different kinds of grain and forage crops. The annual field day was much looked forward to by the neighbors and surrounding district. Shirley was especially delighted with it because it meant lots of delicious food and ice cream all day long!

Wally went to work for Farm Electric putting power into rural areas and Otto stayed home to run the farm. He bought himself a quarter section from Bob Rand just north of his dad's farm and then another two quarters from Milt Yandt adjoining it. In 1959 he married Rae Jenkins, the Home Economics teacher at the High School in Evansburg. They built a home on his farm and he continued to work both his dad's farm and his own while Rae continued to teach school. Wally transferred from Farm Electric to Calgary Power and in 1963 he married Winnifred Graham from the Peace River country who was working as a nurse at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton.

Rudolf passed away on August 31, 1963.

Mary Ann graduated from High School in Evansburg and went to work at the Bank. She transferred to a bank in Edmonton for a while and married Garry Lorenz in 1967.

Shirley graduated from High School in Evansburg and went to work in Edmonton at N.A.I.T. in the Duplicating Department and married Tom Ware. Shirley and Tom now live in Edmonton where Tom works for Inter-provincial Pipe and Steel Company as a millwright and Shirley now works for Jasper Printing.

Wally and Wynn have three children, Janice, Kelly and Nevin. They live in Whitecourt where Wally is Assistant Manager for Trans-Alta Utilities and Wynn works part time as a nurse at the Hospital.

Garry and Mary Ann live in Drayton Valley where Garry works as an Accountant for D.V. Meter, and Mary Ann runs the house at home. They have two girls - Kerry and Trena.

Otto and Rae live on their original farm north of Evansburg. Rae still teaches at the High School and Otto continues to look after his mother's farm as well as his own while his mother does her gardening and provides a home for the family to visit.

The Parry Family

by Gwen

My father, Richard Neville Parry, was born November 16, 1887 at Allty Coed Saithailwyd Whitford, North Wales. Though the family business was banking, my Dad had a desire to be a seaman and left home at the age of eighteen. My knowledge of his years of travel is sketchy. I do know he travelled extensively around the world.

When war broke out in 1914, he was learning the rudiments of farming with cousins who were farming in the Dakotas. My father, having a preference for New Zealand, which he had visited during his earlier travels, immediately headed for New Zealand where he joined the famed A.N.Z.A.C.S. He fought in Europe throughout the war and was gassed during combat in Belgium.

I believe he returned to the U.S. after the war, though I am not certain.

My mother, Olive Mary Edis, was from London,



Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Parry.



(L—R) Norman Parry, Janet Young, Gwen Parry, George Young, Leslie Parry, Marjorie Clark.

England and was a nurse. She and my father were married in Wainwright in 1922. Their first son, Richard Norman was born in Wainwright. In 1923 they moved to the homestead in Park Court. Their second son, John Leslie, was born in 1924 and their daughter Gwenneth May was born in 1926.

My mother died in 1928 and Dad moved the family back to Wales to stay with his family there. In February of 1929 he married Lydia May Mylrea of Liverpool.

My father, new bride, and family in tow immediately returned to the wilds of Alberta. They travelled across the country and disembarked in

Magnolia. My poor stepmother was horrified to see her mode of conveyance to her new home was a grain wagon. She long remembered the trip over the corduroy road to the homestead and said often in later times that if she had had the price of a ticket, she would have immediately returned to the comforts of her English home.

My stepmother had been a dress designer by training, had never learned how to cook, and had been a city dweller all her life. She was the complete greenhorn.

She, however, dug in, raised the family and learned how to lead the pioneer existence.

During their years at Park Court my Mom and Dad were involved with many community activities. Dad served a number of years on the School Board and both were instrumental in the building of the Protestant Church.

In June of 1945 they left Park Court and moved to B.C.

My step mother passed away in October of 1955.

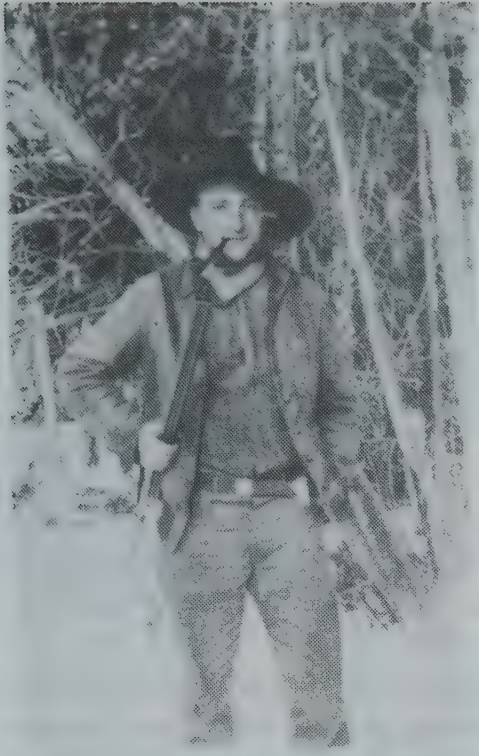
My Dad resumed his travels about the world up until his death in 1959.

Frank and Rosa Weigl

NE-15-54-7-W5

The words, "Go West, Young Man", were indeed far-reaching. In 1928, even the people of Austria heard, and that was the year Mr. Neuhold and I sought our adventure. On June 15 we landed in Quebec, to be taken to the Immigration Office in Wilkie, Saskatchewan for our first job. It sounded simple enough - picking rocks - couldn't be any different from picking apples from the ground, a chore I had done often as a kid. I wouldn't even have to climb a ladder.

It wasn't only Canada that was big - so were the rocks. Many were as large as half a room. Not only did we have to dig all around, but underneath as well. After the dynamite was placed and the rock



Frank Weigl 1933

blown, the big stuff we took out and the little ones went back in the hole, to be again covered with dirt. For me, the job ended on the tenth of August. My years of training as a shoemaker didn't prepare me for this.

Between "exploring" and the odd job in the interim, it wasn't until about the summer of 1929 that a coincidence reunited Neuhold and me in Edmonton.

In the same rooming house that he stayed in, so did Mrs. Tito's husband, another man who greatly influenced my destiny. He stated that in Park Court, right across from Paul Ohl, was a good homestead. Of the three, Park Court, Paul Ohl, and homestead, it was only the latter that we had some idea about. Neuhold and I caught a freight train to Evansburg, and walked out from there to investigate.

Upon our arrival, Paul confirmed the adjoining quarter was not taken. But neither of us really wanted it. To me, in all respects, the trees seemed a bit too thick. From there we went to the Municipal Office in Evansburg, and from a map, Neuhold thought the quarter that Kurt Fausak in recent years

farmed, had much more potential. At this stage I was not interested in clearing land, and almost wished I hadn't discarded my shoemaking tools. But Neuhold was adamant; he wanted that quarter. We were off to Edmonton to the Land Titles Office where he would stake his claim.

The gentleman there was a pleasant fellow. Neuhold gave him the ten dollars and signed the papers. When it was official, the gentleman said, "And what homestead do you want?" Before I could answer, Neuhold gave me a poke and in a hushed voice said, "Take it." I knew he was referring to the one across from Paul Ohl. In what I hoped would appear as a confident manner, I placed my finger on the right location, and said, "I'll take this one". It was indeed fortunate I had ten dollars. Paul and I were to be neighbors, but not for at least a year.

Work in lumber camps in B.C. during that year provided a reasonable living, but the hard times had started. Jobs were scarce. I was glad I had someplace to go, and the homestead in Park Court became my home.

For a few years I batched and did various seasonal jobs including stooking and threshing in Alberta and Saskatchewan. I often rode the freight trains where I met Joe Wagner, who became a lifelong friend.

I began to take quite seriously the exchange of letters between myself and my Austrian sweetheart. Before she could come to Canada to be my wife, the taxes had to be paid up, thirty acres cleared, and a decent home built to live in. I had new incentive.

Adventuresome Rosa came in 1938, but not as a total greenhorn. Her four years working in England taught her much, including English. When she landed in Quebec and came directly by train to Edmonton, she was already dismayed by the lack of fruit trees because she loved to drink cider. The abundance of poplars that she saw on our homeward journey did little to comfort her.

To her, the living accommodations were too small. She couldn't figure out why people had such great big barns and houses like chicken coops. Naturally, living conditions were different. What do you expect when you come from London where they already had modern conveniences, including electricity.

She quickly got used to living a rough life, including the cold winters. She liked the sound of crunching snow under her feet, and often said, "Regardless of how cold it is, as long as the sun is shining, it's still okay". Rosa brought warmth inside.

During those hard years for everyone, one can reflect on some almost unbelievable events, like the time we bought two small pigs from Fred Harris across the river. Pigs crated in our horse-drawn wagon, Harris delivered us safely across via ferry at that time, and homeward bound we were. I had them penned with a decent fence, but within a day, one must have jumped over it. The search led me on foot all the way back to the river. I hollered across to farmer/ferryman Harris. "Yes", he says, "the pig is here". It always remained a mystery whether that pig actually did swim or not.

Gene Horz was a man of many ideas, a man ahead of his time. When mining for coal on a quarter of land just south of ours, he dreamed of a cutting machine - something that would fit into the shaft and mine the coal. I believe it was through the paper that he learned of a steam car in Lacombe, a car that was rumoured to be worth three thousand dollars in its prime. By hand he worked for a week to get a good load of coal, barely averaging a ton a day. He hauled it down to Lacombe by truck, the barter was made, and the return trip brought the car. Gene worked in his mine for another week or so, and with the sale of this coal, got a welder/blacksmith to assemble a six or eight foot long chain with hook-like teeth on it that would ultimately be the cutting bar. The combination of steam engine from the car and cutting bar were to work much like our modern day chain saw. And work it did, but unfortunately, only as long as the coal was soft. When it got into tough going, the



Mr. and Mrs. F. Weigl

engine wouldn't take it. The only real benefit of it all to anyone was the seat from the old car. Joe Wagner - who by now was a close family friend, and I dismantled it, reassembled the springs onto a wooden frame, recovered it with the same fabric, and made a couch - a couch which to this day sits in our summer kitchen.

Many tales could be told of similar events, like the time Wagner and I hand dug our well. This in itself is not significant, but I wonder how many people went down to find water at sixty-five feet, and only then started cribbing - from the bottom up.

Times started getting better. In 1949 we bought our first tractor; in 1950 our first truck. As was the case with many people in those days, the cream cheque was both bread and butter.

Intertwined with all the work, we found time to raise two sons and a daughter. We never regretted coming to Canada, specifically Park Court. It has been our home for over fifty years, and we wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

The Tito Family

In March, 1924, the Tito family, John, Cecile and four year old Heinz, left Germany to come to Wetaskiwin, Alberta, to work for Roy Ballhorn. In 1925 they set up farming on their own near Bashaw.

In April 1926 they decided to move to the Park Court district having bought a farm, SE 27-54-7-W5 from Mr. Rumpf.

On the trip to Evansburg, Cecile and Heinz rode with the stock. It was against C.N.R. policy to have women and children ride in those cars, but as the cows were just fresh, Cecile insisted, in order to milk the cows enroute. In Germany milking and looking after the cows was “women’s work” and Mr. Tito, as many other German men, had never learned to milk.

They arrived at Evansburg station where Paul Ohl, Ernie and Otto Biermann were on hand with teams and hayracks to haul their machinery and household effects to their new home. The animals would be herded. Paul Ohl took Heinz on the seat with him where he wrapped him up to keep him warm, as the weather that April was still quite cold.

The procession left Evansburg and got as far as the flat (where the Lutheran Camp is now) when one of the cows fell into a hole about four feet by five feet and five feet deep. Someone had started digging a well and abandoned it. The cow was unhurt but the whole group had to stop, cut down trees to build a tripod to hoist her up again before proceeding on their way.

Heinz started school in Park Court.

In 1928 the family separated with Mr. Tito and Heinz moving to a farm in the Royal Valley district. In 1930 they bought a farm in the Mystery Lake area where Heinz completed his education.

Cecile worked as cook in lumber and road camps and for a while during the depression, she farmed with Abel Bjornstad.

In late 1937 she married Newt Gammond. After they separated, she went to Edmonton where for the next seventeen years she did janitorial work in various theatres and office blocks. She also did day work for many of Edmonton’s aristocracy.

In 1961 she married Orval Muntz and they moved



Mike Mazeppa Cecile Muntz and Rover. Aart Van der Linden and Steve Mazeppa on load.



Heinz Tito about 1927.



Cecile and Orval Muntz.

back to Evansburg. Orval worked for Department of Highways and Cecile did janitor work. Orval died in 1962.

Cecile sold the house and again went back to work at the work she was expert in - janitoring - in Edmonton. She was always in demand to work in hospitals, nursing homes, banks, etc.

She kept up this work until 1973 when she moved back to Evansburg. She is still, at the age of eighty seven, very active - doing housework, looking after a big garden and going to Bingos a couple of times a week.

Heinz (also known as Harry) went to Anchorage, Alaska in 1944. He watched Anchorage grow from a town of approximately five thousand people to the thriving city of about two hundred thousand that it is today. He started a refuse disposal and excavating business which he operated for many years, selling out in 1965. Since then he has been sometimes retired and sometimes in various other business ventures.

Heinz and his wife, Annabell, have two children, Bill and Connie.

Bill and his wife Donna live in Springdale, Arkansas, where he works in the insurance business. They have one daughter, Terra Dawn.

Connie and her husband, Ron Combs, live in Springdale, Arkansas too, where Ron is in auto sales. They have two sons, Page and Cache. The whole family is involved in horse and cattle raising.

Mr. John Tito later moved to Anchorage for about ten years. Then he moved back to Germany where he passed away a few years ago.

The Grapentin Family

by Edith Roberge

Alfred and Ruth Grapentin (nee Geigert) were born in Germany (East Prussia) in 1898 and were married in Niedenburg, Germany on January 22nd, 1920. In 1925 the couple with their four children

Edith, Helmut, Christel and Fanny, immigrated to Canada arriving in Evansburg on October 15th of that year.

During that first winter Alfred Grapentin worked in a sawmill owned by John Bjornstad, in exchange for lumber, while Ruth did the cooking for the sawmill crew. In 1926 they bought a quarter section of land. Later on they took up a homestead, ten miles north of Evansburg in the Park Court district.

The first Park Court community hall was built on their land. It was here that dances and box socials were held during the winter months. During the summer there was the odd picnic and ball game on the grounds. During one winter evening it turned so cold it was impossible to heat the hall sufficiently to remove coats and overshoes so the few people that attended danced with them on. Needless to say the dance did not last too long and when they arrived home, they found that the thermometer registered sixty below zero.

The children all attended the one-room school about four miles from their home. The school house was heated by a large pot-bellied stove located in the center of the room and on which the frozen lunches, brought to school in syrup and lard pails, were thawed out. Beside it overshoes and mitts were placed to dry.

In conjunction with farming, Alfred Grapentin worked for the Municipal District No. 94 doing road maintenance with a team of horses. He also served as a Chairman of the Park Court School Board.

In the winter of 1931, Alfred Grapentin shipped the first carload of wheat from this district. It was Garnet wheat which graded No. 2 Northern. For his efforts in hauling it over the Pembina River to the elevator at Gainford he received twenty-three cents per bushel.

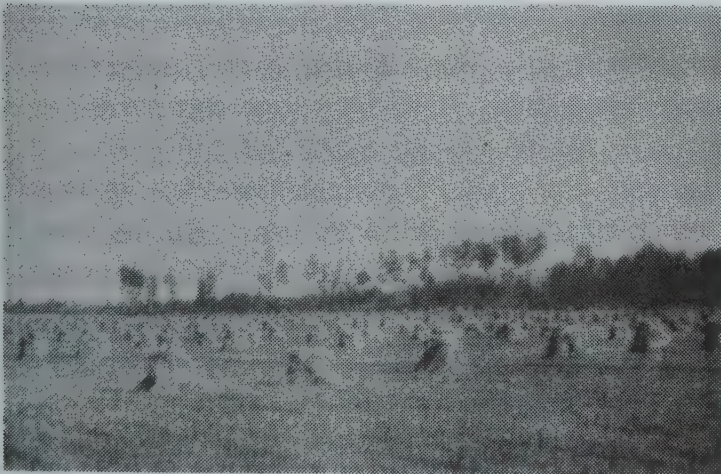
In 1941 the Grapentins moved into the hamlet of Evansburg where Alfred continued to work for the Municipal District as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Assessor, Weed Inspector and Returning Officer.



Alfred Grapentin family 1925 before leaving for Canada from Neidenburg, Germany.



Mr. Grapentin binding grain 1930 in Park Court.



Stooks of grain on Mr. Grapentins Park Court farm.

With the dissolution of the Municipal District in 1954 he went to work with the Department of Highways (Evansburg), first as bookkeeper and then later as foreman until his retirement in 1963.

In 1956 he was elected Mayor for the Village of Evansburg, a position he held until 1965. His knowledge of municipal work served the village well

especially since it was during his term of office that such services as natural gas, water and sewer came to Evansburg.

As members of the Evansburg United Church of Canada, they gave much of their time to the affairs of the church, Alfred as a Board member and Ruth as a member of the local United Church Women.

The only son of the family lost his life in 1936 at the age of fourteen years in a tragic drowning accident in the Pembina River. In 1942 Christel passed away at the age of nineteen.

In 1940 Edith left to work in the cafeteria of the Legislative Buildings in Edmonton. In 1953 she took a position with the Department of Public Health, now known as Alberta Hospital and Medical Care, where she continues to be employed. She was married to Paul Roberge in 1954.

Fanny left in 1942 to work in Edmonton. There she met Frederick Shettleworth who was stationed there with the American Army Airforce. They were married in 1944 and now reside in Meridan, Ct. U.S.A. They have three children and eight grandchildren.

Ruth Grapentin passed away in January 1970 just one day before the couple were to celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary. She is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

After this Alfred sold his home. He resided for a time at Sunshine Lodge in Evansburg, but now, due to failing health and at the age of eighty-three, makes his home at the Edmonton Good Samaritan Auxiliary Hospital.

John and Katherine Harboway

Park Court District

December, 1926 to June, 1945

Katherine and John Harboway came to the Park Court District, Alberta, by rather a roundabout route. Both were born in the early 1890s in territory now occupied by Poland and both separately immigrated to the U.S.A. - Katherine in 1910 and

John in 1912. They settled in Staten Island, New York, where both found employment. Here they met and were married in 1916. In 1922 they returned to their homeland for a visit; however the country was in the midst of post World War I political unrest and upheaval. The Harboways found themselves unable to return to the U.S.A. Finally, after some judicial payments to local officials, they obtained exit visas to immigrate to Canada. This was in 1925 and because of currency restrictions, this meant leaving the country with very few assets. The Harboways were glad to leave that troubled land.

In Canada, Mr. Harboway was directed to farm labour operations in the Chipman and Gadsby Districts in Alberta. While harvesting in the Gadsby District, he met Mr. Paul Ohl of the Park Court District who was working on the same threshing rig. Mr. Harboway was looking for a farm and Mr. Ohl recommended one in the Park Court District. This turned out to be the farm commonly referred to as the "Smith Place." Mr. Harboway bought it in the fall of 1926, with possession in April of 1927. The Harboway family (now including two boys, Al and Marone) arrived in Park Court on December 24th, 1926 and spent the winter at a lumber camp operated by John Bjornstad. Here Mr. Harboway worked in the bush until the "Smith Place" was available.

This new Harboway home consisted of a four-room log house, a barn and twenty-four acres of cleared land. Also there was a large slough not far from the house, which proved to be a great source of mosquitoes and entertainment for the growing boys. It was not exactly equal to a lake or a modern swimming pool, but wonderful for exploring and rafting expeditions.

Mr. Harboway obtained a cow for thirty dollars from Mr. Louis Stroshin, a Park Court farmer. He also bought a team of horses for which he did farm labour. A gang plow was shipped in from the former employer in Gadsby and thus a modest farming operation got under way. This was later expanded by the purchase of a quarter section northwest of the home place and the acquisition of a homestead

by Mrs. Harboway, located a mile south and a mile west.

Like all settlers in the Park Court District in the thirties, the Harboways faced survival problems. Money was scarce and what little came in from the sale of cream, grain or cattle, went for absolute necessities such as clothes, sugar, salt, etc. A large garden, home canned and cured meats, canned wild berries, dairy and poultry products, were the mainstay of the food supply. Luxuries were non-existent. The work day lasted from dawn to dark. Most of the days were spent clearing and breaking land, building fences and the never ending work required to operate a mixed farm with horses. There was very little equipment or modern machinery. The inter-dependence of neighbors was very important for survival. Threshing was a joint project, with several neighbors helping out, while either Mr. Kasper Winteler or Mr. Alfred Proehl were the machine operators. Logging, house building and land clearing were other tasks that frequently brought several neighbors together to accomplish the job.

On the lighter side, Mr. Harboway recalls that on one occasion, while Mrs. Harboway was picking raspberries along the Pembina River, she noticed a black bear picking berries on the other side of the river. Apparently both found interests elsewhere almost immediately. Threshing time was always an adventure for the young boys, but tiring when it lasted into the night. One such time, young Harboway went to sleep behind the straw pile and woke up to find that he was all alone and the threshers long gone. It meant a two mile walk home and having to sheepishly explain how he missed the wagons when they had left the rig.

The Park Court School was about a half mile north of the Smith Place and was also the local meeting place until the hall was built. Both Harboway boys attended here until they left for High School at Evansburg. Some of the teachers at that time were, Mr. Broadbent, Miss Attwood, Miss Green and Miss Vowels, who boarded at the Harboway farm for two school terms.

In the early years the Harboways invited Ukrainian Catholic priests to hold mass in the Harboway home. This took place two or three times a year. This was an opportunity for local Catholics to have their children baptized and to attend Mass. These occasions were usually quite festive, with some attendants travelling for fifteen miles by team and staying for the church services, food and the very important visits with friends. Father Sullivan (more affectionately known as Father Joe in Evansburg) was one of the visiting priests. In about 1939 Mr. Harboway was instrumental in having a small Catholic church built in the district. This provided a more permanent place of worship and a Catholic graveyard.

Although dances and socials at the school were reasonably frequent, the Harboways found visits with friends and neighbors most fulfilling. They associated closely and exchanged visits with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bierman and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Parry. These visits provided an opportunity to discuss work exchange, farm problems, recipes and of course general conversation and district news. In early years, these visits usually lasted through dinner and well into the wee hours of the morning, with the young boys going home to do the evening chores and returning for dinner. Team travel was a slow business and seemed to preclude brief visits. It is also a fact that these people seemed to thoroughly enjoy the chance to visit, partake of good food, good company and perhaps forget the difficult times for a while. Other close neighbors were Mr. and Mrs. Gus Hagen, Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Mattice and many others who added to the development of the district.

One of the biggest problems in the early years was the lack of passable roads and especially such a road to Evansburg, the closest supply centre. The nine miles to Evansburg was actually a bush trail in most stretches, making it necessary to carry an axe and saw to clear the frequent deadfalls or repair broken culverts. The muskegs were a quagmire in the summer and quite capable of miring wagons and horses. The Lobstick River hill was a real challenge on a good day and on a bad day could terrorize any traveller. Mr. Harboway recalls one

descent of the hill when conditions were so icy that the weight of the sleigh caused the horses to fall and the whole rig went over the bank with the Harboways in it. The horses were hung up on a tree by the harness and neck-yoke. It was necessary to chop down the tree and unhitch the horses to get them sorted out. Fortunately another traveller stopped to help out and no serious damage took place. In later years the roads were improved and even cars became a common sight. These improvements were most welcome, except they did bury a fresh water spring near McCormick's lumber mill. This had always been a welcome stop for horses and travellers.

In 1933 the Harboways sold the "Smith Place" to Mr. Jim Grant and moved to a new house they had built on Mrs. Harboway's homestead. Here a new round of farm development started. The boys left the district in the early forties; Al Harboway in 1941 to join the R.C.A.F. and Marone Harboway in 1942 to join the R.C.M.P. On January 16th, 1944, while Mr. and Mrs. Harboway were attending church, their home was totally destroyed by fire. Although neighbors were very helpful, this seemed to disenchant them and in 1945 they sold out in Park Court District and bought a farm on the Sturgeon River in the Gibbons District, twenty miles north of Edmonton.

The Harboways farmed in the Gibbons District until 1966, when they retired and moved to Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta. Mr. Harboway is still resident there, while Mrs. Harboway passed away in 1977. She was pre-deceased by Al Harboway in 1971. Marone Harboway is retired and living in Salmon Arm, B.C. There are four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Albert and Emma Fausak

Albert Fausak was born in Janovka, Prussia, December 19, 1901, the second youngest of a family of ten children. His family were farmers and Albert learned the trade well.

Emma Jakobus was born in Klein Schlafken, Germany. She had three brothers and seven sisters.



Emma Fausak, Olga Fausak holding Betty, Albert and Harold.



Hilda Fausak 11 years old.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fausak with Mr. and Mrs. Albert Fausak and Eddie, Fred and Kurt Fausak and friends before leaving Germany in 1929.

Her family were prosperous farmers of the area.

Albert and Emma were married in Gros Schlafken, August 1928.

In the spring of 1929, they immigrated to Canada with Albert's brother Robert and his wife Olga, and their three sons, Eddie, Alfred (Fritz) and Kurt. The parting from the family and the trip over on the boat was especially hard for Emma since it was only a few months before her first baby was to be born.

They first stayed at Bruderheim where some German acquaintances were living. Harold was born on June 29.

While at Bruderheim, Albert and Emma had to sleep in a granary which they had to share with a family of gophers.

After they lost all their possessions in a fire, the group decided to strike out on their own. They bought N.E. 33-54-7-5 from Mr. Dollman and they all farmed together for several years. In 1935 Betty was born. In 1938 Albert and Emma bought S.E. 4-55-7-5 from Ewald Grapentin and moved over to farm on their own. They all worked very hard to make a living.

In 1945 they were blessed with a second daughter Hildegard (Hilda).

They increased their holdings to four quarters and acquired a full line of power machinery.

Whereas Harold and Betty had to walk to Park Court School, Hilda was able to ride on Justus Otto's bus to Evansburg School.

Hilda completed her high school in Evansburg and moved to Edmonton to do secretarial work.

Betty owns her own house in Evansburg and has clerked at various stores in Evansburg since she left school.

Harold took over the farming operation when Albert and Emma retired and moved into Evans-

burg. Albert died in 1974 and is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

Emma lives in Evansburg where she continues to grow a big garden and to do all her own work.

Robert and Olga Fausak

(Information from a tape made in 1978)

In the spring of 1929, Robert Fausak with his wife Olga and three sons, Edward, Alfred and Kurt, came to Canada from Neidenburg, Germany. They first went to Bruderheim, near the man who had convinced them with glowing tales of quick wealth to come to Canada. They rented a house which had been empty for some time and had been taken over by gophers and squirrels, and bought a stove and acquired some furniture. One Sunday morning the house burned to the ground and they were able to save very little of their possessions. They moved into another house which was no better than the first.

Robert heard that there were homesteads available in the Rocky Rapids area so he and another German man decided to look into it. They came to Entwistle, and thought they would look up Grapentins and Mr. Schimmelpfennig, whom they had known in Germany. This was late July, 1929.

Mr. Grapentin informed them that Mr. Dollman wanted to sell out. They went to see him and Robert made a deal to buy his land (N.E. 33-54-7-W5), machinery and livestock for thirty eight hundred dollars. As they had sold a farm in Germany before coming to Canada, they had brought part of the money with them and could buy a farm rather than take a raw homestead, and thus start full scale farming right away. In August 1929, both Fausak families moved from Bruderheim.

Times were still fairly good when they came but the depression followed shortly, as it took longer for the business crash to reach the backwoods of Park Court.

In 1931, Mr. Grapentin had a good crop of wheat - over a thousand bushels - which he sold



Mr. and Mrs. Otto, Marion Fausak, Kurt Fausak, Fred Fausak, Olga Fausak, Robert Fausak in front.

early in the fall for one dollar and ten cents a bushel. Later the same fall Mr. Stroshin hauled some to Gainford and got only thirty five cents a bushel.

In 1931, Robert and Albert rented the John Smith quarter, which had forty acres for crop. He paid one hundred and twenty dollars in rent. On this rented land they threshed twelve hundred bushels of wheat and made forty loads of hay. Added to the crop on the home quarter they had over three thousand bushels of wheat. They loaded sixteen hundred bushels on a car and received only eighteen cents a bushel for Number Two wheat. The threshing had cost eight cents a bushel and the teams three dollars a day besides field pitchers, so it was not a profitable venture.

Olga was in charge of all the milking and poultry. She was a terrific cook and she and Emma would always serve their crowds of visitors the most scrumptious meals. When they first came they received fourteen to fifteen dollars for an eight gallon can of cream and the next year the proceeds from the same can were between one and two dollars. All cream was shipped to the creameries in Edmonton.

In 1931 or 1932, they dressed out ten turkeys which weighed one hundred and twenty pounds. They received a cheque for one dollar and eighty

cents for the ten turkeys. They would have liked to save the cheque for a souvenir but needed the money.

Mr. Clark, who had a mink farm at Wildwood, would come out and butcher an animal right on the farm for ten dollars. This was considered good money as not too many people received as much when shipping to the stock yards.

The Fausaks one time shipped seven pigs which weighed about sixteen hundred pounds and received twenty-eight dollars for all seven. Since there were no truckers, they hauled or chased their animals across the ferry at Matthews Crossing to Magnolia where there was a shipping association. The first trucker to come out was Alec Roffey, then Kuefler and then Purcell.

Farmers would take wheat to the elevator and trade it for flour. It took seven bushels of wheat to get a one hundred pound sack of flour.

The Fausaks had a large flock of chickens from which they got pails and pails of eggs. As many as they could, they took to Bruce and Macphee's store where they got five cents a dozen in trade.

As they were producing considerable quantities of food they were able to help many newcomers with potatoes, eggs, meat and vegetables. Many of the people arriving at that time did not even have a garden patch.

In August, 1936, a tragic drowning in the Pembina River took the life of their seventeen year old son, Edward, along with that of his two close friends, Helmut Grapentin and Carl Horz. The funeral was held in the then recently built Park Court Hall, with kind neighbors helping in the arrangements. Robert had been instrumental in building the hall, little thinking it would serve this purpose.

Albert and Emma bought S.E. 4-55-7-W5 from Ewald Grapentin, so they could farm on their own. Ewald had gone back to Germany to stay. The Fausaks still had part of the money from the sale of their farm in Germany before coming to Canada,



Fausak boys Edward, Kurt, Fred and Harold.

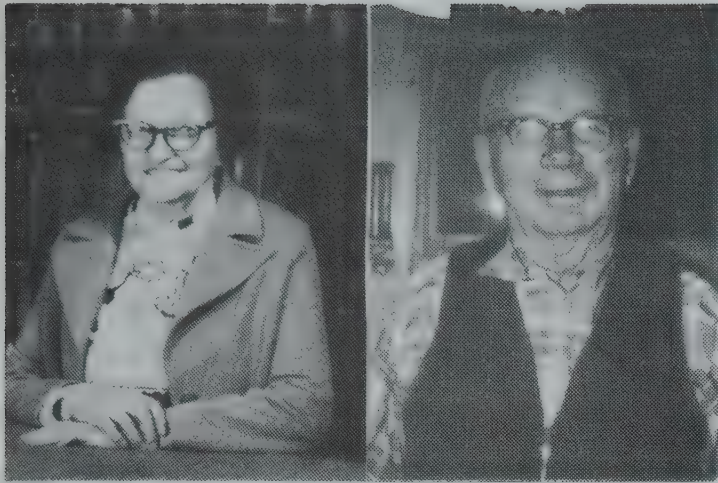


Fred Fausak when in the army.

but this money was in Germany and in the interim Hitler had come to power and would not allow any money to leave Germany. They were able to pay Ewald through their sister, who held the money in trust.

In 1943, Alfred (Fred) joined the army, serving overseas for three years. On his return he took his own farm, the N.W. 3-55-7-W5. In 1947 he married Hazel Bjornstad. They raised a family of nine suffering the loss of a daughter, Helen, in 1973.

In 1950, Kurt married Marion Allen from Chip Lake. Marion had taught school in Park Court



Olga Fausak 1981

Robert Fausak, 1978.

prior to her marriage. They bought the Keen quarter from Winteler and farmed there for thirty one years. They raised three children, Cecile, Ray and Don. Kurt and Marion have now moved to Evansburg.

Cecile is a director at Calgary General Hospital. Besides going to University in Edmonton and Ottawa, she spent two years as a CUSO participant in the Dominican Republic, as administrator in public works.

Ray did some world travelling as well - having been an agriculture exchange student for some six months in Germany. He married Beverly Cameron from Entwistle and they have two little girls, Michelle and Yvonne. They are farming on Kurt's home quarter.

Don went to work for Alberta Power, and has worked at several Alberta locations. He has been in Vegreville for some time where he is presently engaged to marry Dianne Steinbach.

In 1958, Robert and Olga sold their farm to Mr. and Mrs. Dave Enge and moved into Evansburg. Here Olga was very active with the United Church Women as well as entertaining her family and friends.

Robert passed away in 1980 and is buried in the Park Court United Church Cemetery.

Olga has been a resident of the Sunshine Lodge in Evansburg since it opened in 1975.

The Grants

Mr. and Mrs. James Grant moved to the Park Court area in 1933, from Black Diamond, Alberta. They bought the farm formerly owned by John Harboway. They had five sons although some weren't around the area too much. They were Keith, Charlie, Ike, Percy and Douglas. Ike moved to Park Court with them.

Jim Grant served as school trustee and was janitor for a number of years.

Mrs. Grant was known as "Granny" to all the children in the neighborhood. She had the most wonderful memory, and when showing you her keepsakes, such as certain dishes etc., she would tell you the life history of the person who gave her this treasure.

They looked forward to school holidays every summer when their twin granddaughters, Lorraine and Lucille, came to visit them from Calgary.

In 1942 their old log house was destroyed by fire. They managed to save very little, but with the help of friends and neighbors, the house was soon replaced with one made of lumber.

In 1940, two of the Grant boys - Ike and Percy, enlisted for Active service. They were both with the South Alberta Regiment. Percy went overseas but for health reasons Ike did not.

In 1940, Ike married the former Alice Hagen.

In 1945, when the war was over, he returned to take over the farm.

Ike and Alice were active in Community Clubs and whatever took place in the area.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant remained on the farm in their own "little house." Granny was always handy as a baby sitter.

Ike and Alice have two daughters, Maxine and Lois. Both girls made teaching their careers, after



Mr. and Mrs. Jim Grant with Granddaughters, Maxine and Lois, 1947.

completing school at Evansburg.

Jim Grant passed away in November, 1948, at seventy-two years of age.

Granny Grant went to a nursing home in Edmonton in 1963. She passed away in July, 1973, at the age of ninety-four years.

Ike and Alice stayed on the farm until 1965 when they sold the farm to Walter Wyshynski. They then moved to Evansburg.

John Bury

I, John Bury, was born in the Village of Billa, Czechoslovakia in 1897. I lived there and worked as a railroad tie-maker. I served in the Army in World War I. I was married there and had one daughter. After the war, the country was in such a turmoil, I came to Canada. We had to have a thorough medical before we could enter Canada to stay. We were given a card that allowed us transportation west. I came to Vegreville. I could not speak English, but in Vegreville there were farmers who spoke my language. They offered brush cutting jobs at one dollar and fifty cents a day.

I then met John Paulduro from Park Court. He had a farm there in partnership with a friend, John Zudkowich. They bought the farm that was

previously owned by the Rumpfs. Later Mrs. Zudkowich became ill with T.B. The government didn't pay medical bills then, so he sold his half of the farm to John Paulduro in order to pay the doctor bills.

I was still at Spruce Grove when I heard John Paulduro was getting married. I was to be the best man. My boss in Spruce Grove wouldn't let me go. He didn't give me the letter that came in the mail because he thought I wouldn't come back. When I didn't show up for the wedding, they delayed it for a week. Then I was finished my job, and came to Evansburg by train. I sat in the station wondering where to find them. Mr. Goodwin, the station agent, said he had to lock the station, and told me where to find Pete Pawlyna. He said that I could stay there for the night.

I had a gallon of wine and a bottle of whiskey in my bag, which I was taking for the wedding.

Pete Pawlyna directed me how to get to Park Court, "Cross the bridge. Stay on the trail till you see a big barn with just rafters (which was Mr. Togweiller's). Turn east. You can't miss it." It was just a wagon bush trail. I wasn't too sure where I was, so I sat down by the road thinking. I saw some smoke. I left my bag by the road and went in. There was a rough lumber shack. I knocked on the door and that was where Pete Giadamachuk lived. He directed me to Paulduros.

When I got there, they were all busy - Mrs. Harboway, and Mrs. Marysiuk, too, were cooking for the wedding. I was tired so I lay down in the corner on the floor and slept for awhile. The wedding was that afternoon.

After that I worked at the Charlie Daniel's farm at Entwistle for a while cutting brush. I went back to Park Court and met August Hagen. He was leasing a quarter of land for pasture. He raised and owned quite a few horses. He told me to file on this quarter of land for a homestead. I went to Edmonton and was at the Land Titles Office at 9 a.m. and got the land. Then there was plenty of work. I built a house, cleared land and built a blacksmith shop.

There were lots of plowshares to sharpen. Everybody plowed with horses. This kept me fairly busy.

I was also a very keen hunter and looked forward to the hunting season, when I was seldom home.

I was also very fond of children. All the children in the neighborhood were my friends.

One time, when a neighbor was a little girl, she packed her clothes and wanted to come to live with me, and hunt deer and bears. Her mother said, "Where are you going to sleep? Bury only has one bed." She said "That's all right. I'll sleep at the front and Bury can sleep at the back."

In 1957, I sold the farm to Andy Paulduro and moved to Evansburg where I had a house and lot up town. Two years ago I moved into Sunshine Lodge. My family never did come to Canada. I still have a daughter, two grandsons and three great-grandchildren in Europe.

Hieberts

Abraham Hiebert and his wife, Betty, with their baby son, Eric came to Park Court in about 1930, from Saskatchewan. Mr. Hiebert first came as a Watkins Dealer. His first homestead was NW 17-54-7-W5, (later owned by Mike Maruska).

He dropped that quarter and took NE 32-54-7-W5, where they set up a tent. They lived in the tent for two years. It was quite comfortable with a wooden floor.

They went to work in McCormick's camp for one winter and then built themselves a nice little log house. Mr. Hiebert was a very good carpenter.

They also worked as cook and cookee for the road gang while the Lobstick Hill was being cut down.

The following year Mr. Hiebert took sick and a few days after he went to the hospital, he died.



Cutting down the Lobstick Hill. Mr. Hiebert and Eric in center. Mrs. Hiebert sitting on bank, about 1932.



Mr. and Mrs. Moortele with Eric Hiebert.

Mrs. Hiebert moved in to Evansburg, where she lived in the "doll house" for a few years. She later married Theofele Moortele and they moved to Port Moody, B.C.

Eric has been back to Evansburg for a few visits.

Ernest Togweiler

by Hazel Fausak and Doris Winteler

Mr. Togweiler came from Switzerland and worked on the prairie for several years before coming to the Park Court district in 1920 or 1921.

He lived on the Blasius place until 1926, and then took a homestead, NW 16-54-7-W5. He built a house on it but never lived on it. He let that quarter



Mr. Togweiler and Winteler Family.

go and moved onto the Read place. After a short time, about 1928, he bought the east half of section nineteen from John Bjornstad.

He farmed there for several years, milking five or six cows and raising several pigs. He also had the job of dragging the road for many years. He always served the threshers jam sandwiches for supper.

In 1939 he sold his farm to the Seredas. He moved to Joe Nolans, then over to Saxers and finally to Wildwood.

While he lived on the Blasius place he had a sidewalk about eight feet long before his door, on each side of which he had pounded in little stakes. The stakes were about eight inches high. The idea was that if a certain person, of whom he was afraid, came at night, he would fall over the stakes. This would waken his dog who was in the house. The dog would start to bark, thereby warning Mr. Togweiler in time to protect himself.

In his later years Mr. Togweiler went to a nursing home where he passed away.

Reinhold Harke

by Irma Harke

I, Irma Stiert, was born in Prelate, Saskatchewan and came to the Park Court district in April 1936.



(L—R) Irma Harke, Hazel Fausak, Willie Harke, Reinhold Harke, David Harke. (Front) Fred Fausak, Eileen Harke, Fausak children.



Reinhold Harke and stock, 1940.

I stayed with my sister Theresa for a few months.

While here I met Reinhold Harke and we were married in his home in December.

Our first child, David was born the following year. Four years later a daughter Eileen was born.

Four years later we had another daughter, Shirley and then another son, Kenneth three years after.

The children all went to school in the Collynie School and later to Evansburg.

We had good neighbors. There were concerts and dances in the school and the Park Court Hall.



Harke's farm Park Court.

We got our mail from the Park Court Post Office at Young's next door until it closed in 1953, then we got it at Evansburg.

We had good crops, but quite often got hail too.

My husband did custom threshing around the district. We continued farming until my husband passed away in March 1964. He is buried in the Park Court United Church Cemetery.

I remained on the farm for another three years with the family.

About 1967 we bought a house in Evansburg and moved in to live until the present time.

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Crago

by Kathleen Crago

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Crago were born in Cornwall, England.

Tom Crago was with the British Forces in India as a very young man.

When he returned to England, he married Edith Bawden, and they lived near Truro, Cornwall.

Tom Crago was a farm laborer, but he wanted to

have a better life for his children so in 1912, he came to Edmonton. He worked at different jobs and sent money back to England to keep his family and he saved a little, so he could bring his family to Canada.

The war broke out in 1914, so he couldn't bring them out. His two eldest sons, Charles and Percy joined the British Forces. Charles was killed.

Civilians were not allowed to leave England as ships were used for troops and supplies.

In 1919, he sent for the two oldest girls, Dorothy and Daisy, and in 1920, the family consisting of Mrs. Crago, Percy, Myrtle, Ivy, Marshall and Roy, arrived in Edmonton.

They lived in Edmonton for a year then moved to a farm in the Wildwood area. Marshall and Roy went to a local school. The other members of the family worked in Edmonton.

Roy was a baby when his father left England, and he was eight years old when his father saw him again.



The Crago home with Mrs. R. Weist, Mrs. Kleofas, with Otto Weist, Mrs. Crago and Ivy Crago, Mr. Crago and Mr. Weist in background.

The family moved to the Bigland farm in Park Court and farmed there for many years.

Roy moved to Victoria where he married Annie Mazeppa of Evansburg. They are both deceased. Their daughter, Mary Anne, lives in Victoria, and she and her husband Greg Griffin have two sons.

Marshall continued to farm in Park Court after his parents retired to Edmonton in 1938. He married Kathleen McAlpine who had taught in Park Court School.

They left Park Court in 1943 and lived in Edmonton for a time. They moved to Busby where their daughters, Isabel and Margery, attended school. They now live in Edmonton.

Robert Gillard

On the sixth of December 1923 I, Robert G Gillard, left my home in Cardiff, Wales to travel to Park Court, Alberta to join my father's sister, Mrs. Matthew Young on their farm and learn how to farm.

I was then fourteen years old and had worked in an office as a stenographer for some eight months after leaving school.

Why did I come to Canada? I suppose a sense of adventure was the main reason after reading the Canadian Government's advertising telling of the opportunities in the Golden West.

I believe I arrived in Evansburg at two o'clock one very cold morning by transcontinental train to find my uncle waiting on the platform to greet me. With temperature at sixty below zero and considerable snow on the ground, we proceeded to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Caudle for the remainder of the night.

The next morning we took off for Park Court by team of horses and sleigh. As I recall the distance was about twelve miles and took us three hours. The road was broken, but there were many drifts.



Robert Gillard's house on farm by Lobstick River, 1928.

When we arrived at the Young's my Aunt made me very welcome and I was glad to get into the warmth of their small home which was heated by wood stoves.

Some of the neighbours in Park Court whose names I remember were, Joe Stewart, the Greenwoods, Dollmans, Harkes, Stroshins and these along with the Youngs I would say were the real pioneers.

After working for the Youngs for several years I left and went to work for Donald Caudle in Evansburg. The Caudles were dairy and poultry farmers, and also raised vegetables in a large way. Mr. Caudle had a retail milk route in Evansburg. The coal mine was very active then and Evansburg was a thriving community.

Our recreation was mainly square dances, picnics, church suppers, badminton at the large community hall, and amateur dramatics.

I remember the United Church of Canada was established in Evansburg and the minister at that time was the Rev. J. B. Howard.

After working for the Caudles for several years I purchased the quarter section north of them from The Soldier Settlement Board and tried my hand at farming with varied success. I recall growing wheat on some twenty-five acres of cleared land only to have it frozen the first year, hailed out the second, and a bumper crop the third year. This I sold to the Wheat Pool and received ten cents a bushel down



Robert Gillard

payment and that's all I got. The depression came along and ruined the market and in fact ruined me financially.

I left the farm, went to Edmonton to look for work, and spent my last nickel before getting a job looking after chickens in south Edmonton for five dollars a month and my board.

After a few months of this I finally got a job with the Fur Trade Department of the Hudson's Bay Co. and was sent to Fort Nelson, B.C., to work at a Fur Trading post. From Fort Nelson I was transferred to Fort Liard, N.W.T. and from there to Montreal Fur Sales. Then in 1939 when the war broke out I was sent to North West River, Labrador, where I was in charge of the Trading Post and also operated a radio and weather station for the Canadian Navy. During this time Goose Bay Airport was built some twenty miles away and many planes were ferried from there across to England.

After leaving North West River I was transferred to head office in Winnipeg and worked there for several years. Then I left the Company and moved to the U.S.A. where I entered the lumber and building material business in Willimantic Ct., and I am still at it.

Some names of Evansburg residents that come to

mind are Prescott Forbes and family, (Mr. Forbes was at the mine office), Dr. Chisholm, The MacDiarmid family, Fred and Mrs. Earl, Billy Barwise, Harry Greaves, Bob Bruce and Charlie Macphee (who ran a general store) and many others.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace H. Clark

by Hilda Clark

Horace H. Clark, my husband, was born in Nottingham, England, He had worked on a farm in Saskatchewan, date and place unknown, before coming to Park Court, where he "batched" for a few years previous to 1932. A neighbor told me that when he was ploughing, the cat, dog and pig used to follow behind him in the furrow.

In April 1932, he married me, Hilda Mather, of Edmonton, Alberta. I was born in Rochdale, Lancashire, England. We had two children, Marjorie Anne and Hilda Barbara both born in Park Court. Marjorie is married to Ken Velve, who works for the Gas Co. in Dawson Creek, B.C., and they have a boy and a girl. Barbara is married to a farmer, Eric Hodges. They live near Beaverlodge, Alberta, and have a daughter and two sons.



Horace and Hilda Clarke with Marjorie and Barbara, 1943.

My husband farmed the quarter we lived on in Park Court, also the homestead, north west of the school land. Owing to a heart condition, he had to quit farming in 1945. He was manager of the first Co-op store in Evansburg, then in Bezanson, and finally managed a grocery department, in the Wembley Department Store in Wembley, Alberta. He worked at the job for just over a month, when he collapsed and died from a heart attack in July, 1949.

I retired in 1971 after working as store clerk in the Wembley Department Store for twenty-one years, and am now living in an apartment in Beaverlodge, Alberta.

Phillip Bertram and Mary Greenwood

Phillip Bertram Greenwood was born on February 3rd, 1903 in Shrewsbury, England. He came to Canada in 1921 after his father died to live with his brother Gilbert Greenwood and wife Norah.

Bertram's mother Ada Edith Greenwood came to Park Court from Shrewsbury, England in 1923.

She bought the quarter section from Caeleys which is across the road from Gilbert Greenwood and built a frame house there in 1925.

Ada Edith Greenwood's brother, Fred Fleming, came to Park Court to live with his sister. He had served in the British Army in World War I, was injured in the Army and unable to work. He died shortly after he was here and is buried in the Entwistle Cemetery. Mrs. Greenwood returned to England in 1929 after Bertram had married, as she had been keeping house for him.

Bertram married Mary Williams, a school teacher from British Columbia, who had taught in Park Court.

Their first daughter Joan was born in 1929 and



Mrs. Mary Greenwood

died at six weeks of age. She is buried in front of the house as there was no cemetery. Their second daughter Joyce was born in September, 1930. Mary Greenwood took sick and was in a T.B. Sanitarium in Calgary, where she later passed away.

Bertram's mother returned from England in 1931 to care for Bertram's daughter, Joyce with the help of Joyce's aunts on her mother's side. Bertram's mother became ill and returned to England, August 1934. She passed away in October, 1934. Joyce then went to live with her aunts in British Columbia. Joyce in later years joined the Canadian Air Force and to the best of my knowledge is still in the Air Force.

Bertram hauled mail to and from Evansburg and Park Court for fifteen years.

He played third base in the Park Court ball team and never missed a game.

He was a very dedicated uncle. He took his nephews swimming, to ball games and to dances.

He was elected secretary of the Farmers' Community Club in 1933 and held the position until 1941.

He married Helen Angerman. They had two sons Phillip and Marvin.

He joined the Army in 1941 but was discharged

later that year due to illness. He returned to the farm and within a year his health deteriorated. He died on March 26th, 1943 and is buried in Edmonton.

Peter and Katherine Marysiuk

Peter left Silec Benkiw in Western Ukraine and landed in Quebec, May 10, 1925. He worked in Manitoba, then Saskatchewan, arriving in Evansburg in February, 1927. The original farm was purchased in the spring of 1927. Katherine Rozkowsky also came from Silec Benkiw, Western Ukraine, arriving in Canada July 12, 1927. They were married in Edmonton on August 2, 1927. They farmed in Park Court until April, 1963, when they moved to Edmonton, where they resided until 1973. At that time, they moved to Calgary where they still reside. Their present address is 4220 - 45 Street, S.W.

Peter and Katherine celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary August 2, 1977 with a special benediction at St. Stephens Church in Calgary. They were joined by their family, grandchildren and one great grandchild, and many dear friends. Congratulatory messages were received from Prime Minister Trudeau, Premier Lougheed, Lieutenant-Governor Steinhauer, and the Mayor of Calgary.

To the union of Peter and Katherine were born four children, Anne, Olga, Edward and Allan. The children all attended Park Court School from Grades one to nine.

Peter and Katherine were always active in community and school affairs. Peter was a school trustee for nine years in the Park Court district.

The Marysiuk family belonged to the Ukrainian Catholic faith. Peter was instrumental in helping to build St. John the Baptist Church in Park Court in 1939. This Christian community was active until the church services ended in the 1960's.

The children received their high school in Evansburg and Edmonton. Anne graduated in Medical



Marysiuk house and girls Olga and Annie.



Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Kuefler with twins

Laboratory Technology after high school in Edmonton. She married Ernie Kuefler in 1950. They lived in Galahad and raised seven children, Tim, Tom, Mary Jane, Phillip, Felix, Daniel and Valerie. In 1965, Anne and her family moved to Sherwood Park where they still live. Olga worked as a secretary, following her graduation in Edmonton. She married Jere MacFarlane in 1955. They lived in Edmonton where they raised Maureen, Brian, Peggi and Patti. They moved to Calgary in 1973, where they presently reside. Edward graduated from Evansburg High School and did service work in the oil industry, later becoming a partner in M.N.M. Machinery. In 1962, Edward married Evodia Kehoe and they lived in Edmonton where their children, Terri, Joann and Lynn were born. In 1969 they moved to Calgary where they still reside. Allan is a graduate of Evansburg High School and the University of Alberta, Faculty of Chemical

Engineering. He is employed by Gulf Canada in Toronto. He married Linda Miller in 1963, and they live in Burlington, Ontario, with their three children, Catherine, Steven and Laurie.

The Paulduro Family

by Andy Paulduro

Sophia and John Paulduro came to Canada in the late 1920's, coming from vastly different parts of Europe.

Sophia Roczkowsky came in 1929 from the Ukraine, to work on a farm owned by Franz Kleofas, in the Park Court district.

John Paulduro came from Czechoslovakia in 1927, a shoemaker by trade. As only farm workers were allowed to immigrate to Canada at that time, he spent summers working on farms around Leduc and Millet. Most of this work was clearing land by hand, aided occasionally by a team of horses to pull down trees or stumping powder to blow out the really big stumps. Wages then were three dollars a day or sometimes they worked by the acre.

Later he found employment at Chisholm Mills, cutting logs around Whitecourt, then driving them on the Athabasca River for about ninety miles to the mills where they were cut into lumber. This was year round work, cutting the trees in the winter and then piling them along the river, waiting for spring breakup to float them to the mill. There they were cut into lumber in the summertime. For a bit of entertainment, John had a small portable gramophone, and the men would pitch in to buy records. Many Sundays were spent listening to an assortment of music.

Sophia and John were married on October 27, 1930, and started out farming. Like most of their neighbors, it was mixed farming; a few hogs, chickens, some milk cows and a team of horses. Money was not too plentiful, but you could always trade something for homemade butter, cream or eggs. In those days, if you could not afford to buy it, you made it.



Logs piled at Whitecourt ready to float to Chisholm Mills.



Sunday afternoon in lumber camp listening to the gramophone

There was a lot of hard work, but most everyone looked forward to the weekend because there would be some sort of do going on. One week it would be a card party and dance. Refreshments were coffee, sandwiches and cake and for that extra punch there would be some homemade dandelion or beet wine. Sometimes you could get a beer bottle of home brew for one dollar, but one dollar was a lot of money in the early thirties.

John and Sophia have one son, Andrew, who was born and raised on the farm. Although there have been a lot of changes in the past fifty years, they still take part in helping around the house and garden. John and Sophia Paulduro live with their son and daughter-in-law Mary, and their two grandchildren Louise and Audrey.

The Neuhold Family

by Mrs. Neuhold

Mr. and Mrs. Valentine Neuhold came to Evansburg in the late fall of 1929.

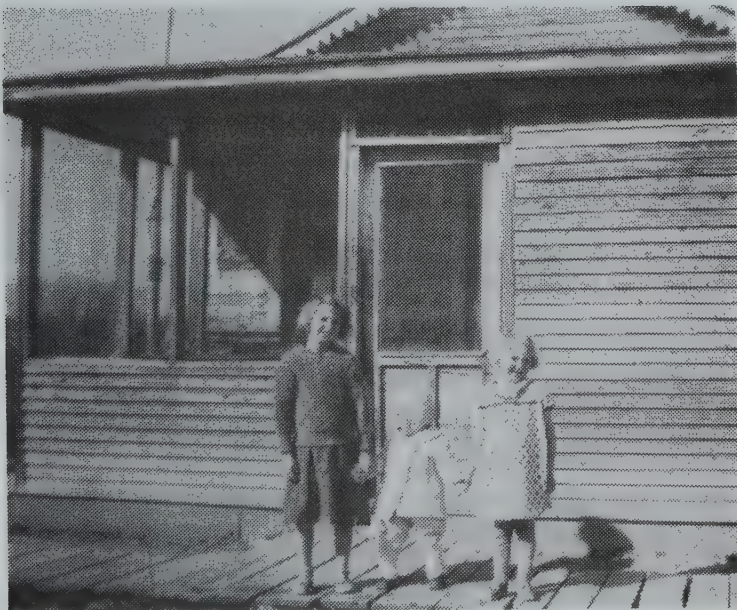
Mr. Neuhold worked in the mine at Evansburg that winter. In March of 1930, they moved to their homestead north and east of Evansburg. They worked hard and soon had their place fixed up very neatly. It was hard work to clear the land and even harder to pick the roots, after the land was broken.

Breaking the land was done with tractors, but all the other field work was done with horses.

Mr. Neuhold went to work in the coal mines in the winter and Mrs. Neuhold worked hard taking care of the farm and their family of three, two girls and one boy.

Erika, Margaret and Frank were all born in Canada. In 1944, they moved to another farm just north of Evansburg, as it was close to a school. Before they moved in they built a new house on this farm.

From September, 1949 to June, 1950, Mr. Neuhold used his half-ton pickup truck with a van on the back to take all the school children in the Gowanbrae District to school at Evansburg. He



Neuhold children. Erika, Frank and Margaret.

took them to school in the morning and back home in the afternoon.

In the fall of 1950, the big school buses came to the district.

The Neuholds stayed on their farm until the late fall of 1971, when they moved to Evansburg to retire from farming.

Mr. Neuhold passed away in the early spring of 1980. Mrs. Neuhold makes her home in Evansburg at the date of writing.

Alva and Edith Elless

by A. Elless

We met while I was working on a farm at Duagh, Alberta in 1924, and again several years later while working at Swift's Packing Plant in North Edmonton.

Wages at that time were twenty-seven and one-half cents an hour.

We were married in 1931 and moved to our homestead in Park Court. For the year previous, I had been batching with Joe Larwill on the homestead, clearing land and working out.

We moved into a fourteen-by-sixteen-foot shack which was on the homestead. We made a picnic-style table from rough lumber - the top chest high. Also, a rustic bench which turned out too low for the table. We had to use the seat from the Model T Ford on top.

We were on the homestead for two years. By then, there was ten acres cleared. This gave us clear title to the homestead as far as the government was concerned. With this load off my shoulders, I was able to leave the homestead and make some money working for Swift's for the summer of 1934. I bicycled the seventy miles each way to and from the homestead most weekends that summer.

One of the treasures from Swift's was fifty pounds

of lard. We used it for cooking, lighting, and even in place of butter.

To save on the lard candle, we would use the light from the heater to play Snakes and Ladders.

At the end of that summer, I left Swift's and began to work on the farm and for neighbors. One major project was the building of a poplar log barn.

Three children, Hazel, Ellen and Jimmy were born in Park Court.

Clearing land was a never-ending process. We did all the laundry on an old scrub board and had to carry the water from a creek up hill to the house about half a mile. Then in a fit of frustration, I witched for water near the house. Only twenty feet from the house, and eight feet down, we struck good water and lots of it.

Edith's foster father in Edmonton gave her a mare, colt and buggy. Hazel stayed with me and Edith took Ellen the ninety miles (back road route) to Edmonton. At night they slept under the buggy and during the five-day trip they had no rain and enjoyed it. I worked two months in exchange for a cow. She was old, but gave us lots of milk, cream and butter.

To plant my crop, I had to borrow the neighbor's horse and disc at a double time, working two days for him for one day's use of the horse and disc.

In 1937, I dug a well for a farmer six miles down the road. It was a long trip each day. The well was four feet square and nine feet deep. He got lots of water for his eight-dollar investment.

The next year no work was available, and we applied to the Municipality of Evansburg to get some help. They gave us eight dollars a month for food for three children and two adults.

The following year, we sold out and returned to Edmonton. I returned to Swift's.

Over the years, we had eight children as well as several foster children.

During a long strike at Swift's, I went to look for work in B.C. and finally moved there.

Arthur Hart

by Hazel Fausak

Arthur Hart was born in Penatanguishene, Ontario. He came west harvesting for several years and then in 1929 he took a homestead, NE-30-54-7-5. He cleared out a patch of land on the southern slope of the highest hill in Park Court. His field could be seen from the south and east for many miles.

Very often when people were lost in the bush, they would climb up on something high such as a windfall and look around for some clue of which way to go. When they saw Hart's field they knew which way was north or west.

His farm was also a spot that hardly ever had an early frost. He could grow tomatoes and cucumbers every year.

He had bought a roll of linoleum from a travelling salesman. He had it leaning against the wall in his shack for several years always intending to lay it. However, having a beautiful floor was not to be, as one day a neighbor boy came and used it for target practice.

One night in the late thirties, a group of boys from Evansburg were out joy riding on the Park Court road. It was a terribly rainy night and at about midnight they got stuck near Hart's place. They woke him up and he went out and rounded up his horses in the pouring rain. He hitched them up and pulled the car out of the mudhole. They asked him how much they owed him. He pondered for a while and then said, "Would twenty cents be too much?"

Arthur Hart moved into Evansburg in the early

fifties. He passed away in the early sixties and is buried in Edmonton.

James A. Stewart

I was born in 1923 and raised on the family farm in Park Court and did what most farm boys did in the early days, helped around the yard and carried wood into the house to keep the fires going. In the winters this meant a lot of wood as in those days we did not often have coal. At times it was an endless battle to keep the woodbox full. When it was time to go to school, I received my education in the original Park Court school which was about a mile and a half from home. I sometimes think that in the winter that building was the coldest that any man had ever built. The children that went to that school survived it all. I have many fond memories of that school. I took my grade ten in Evansburg where I boarded with a friend. When I completed grade ten in 1939 I left school and stayed home to help on the farm.

In the years that I was growing up on the farm, there was very little entertainment as we know it today, so we had to make the best of it. I guess I was lucky because we lived so close to the river and I was able to spend time in the water. Another event that I tried not to miss was the breakup of the river in the spring. For a person young or old to not see the river ice going out in the spring, is to have really missed something. Another event I always looked forward to was threshing. I always was interested in machinery and a tractor and threshing machine was a dream come true to a small boy.

After I left school to help on the farm it was a case of getting down to work in earnest. It meant long hours in the field and it didn't matter if it was spring, summer or fall. In 1942 we got our first tractor and it made field work more pleasant as I never cared much for driving horses.

Around this time I added to my entertainment by going to dances that were held around the country - Stanger, Magnolia, Jalna and others. The neighbor boys and I would go together and attend these country dances whenever we could. We all looked forward to the dances that were held in the Park



Stewart children. (B.R.) Katherine, James holding Ronald and David. (F.R.) twins Douglas and Carolyn



Irene Stewart youngest of the family.

Court Hall as it was our own hall right at home. It was at one of these dances I met Millie Zollikofer who was to become my wife. In 1946 on June 21 we were married in the Park Court Church. We have the honour of being the only couple to have been married in the Park Court United Church. We held our wedding dance in the hall. When we celebrated our twenty-fifth anniversary we held it in the same hall.

We made our home on the family farm until 1954 when I bought my present farm where we are still residing. I farmed my own land which consisted of four quarters plus my father's half section. When we settled on our own farm we went into milking cows and shipping cream, which was a full time job



Stewart Family

(Back Row) Douglas, Normand Hews, Bryan Woods, Irene, Ronald, James Jr., David, (Middle Row) Margo Stewart, Carolyn, Katherine, Jim, Millie, Bertha Zollikofer, Joan Stewart, Irene Stewart (Front Row) Lee Anne Stewart, Krystal and Trevor Woods, Dawn and Richard Stewart.

with all the land work. I farmed until 1971 when I sold three quarters of my land and got a job working for Big Country Machinery in Drayton Valley as a set up and service man.

My wife and I have had a good life from the farm where we raised seven children, four boys and three girls. Jim the oldest is married and works for MacCosham in Edmonton. Kitty is married and lives in Edmonton. Dave is married and has his own painting business and lives in Thorhild, Alberta. Douglas is married and has his own carpenter business and lives in Evansburg. Carolyn is married and lives in Edmonton. Ronald has his own painting business and is still at home. Renee is still going to school and is at home.

As of now we have six grandchildren, three granddaughters and three grandsons.

Andrew and Pearl Kapitaniuk

by Cosmo Kapitaniuk

Andrew Kapitaniuk and his wife and three sons came from Borki, Poland to Canada in 1928. They boarded the S.S. Estonia and after a rough trip, landed in Quebec on June 8, 1928. Then they

travelled to Edmonton by train and to Athabasca, where homesteads still were available for ten dollars for one hundred and sixty acres. Their homestead was all bush and tall trees, with no buildings.

We lived in a small cabin on a farm. Father worked for the farmer and other farmers till he was able to build his own cabin. Then we moved to our own place.

We were four miles from school but had to walk both ways winter and summer.

After quite a few years, father decided to sell the homestead as the land had a lot of rocks on it and that made a lot of extra work.

He bought a farm in the Park Court area. We farmed here for three years but did not like the gumbo in the soil. When it was wet it was impossible to work it.

We once more moved to Athabasca, six miles south of our first home.

One son, Kalenick, still lives in Athabasca. Another son, Bill, lives in France and I am in Ontario.

The Whithams

Mr. and Mrs. Whitham and their son Bob came to Park Court in the early 1930s. They farmed on the school quarter until their son passed away in 1934. They then moved to a house in Arnupville. Later they moved to a house along the alley in up-town Evansburg.

Mr. Whitham was extremely hard of hearing and because of this was killed by a train as he walked along the railway tracks sometime in the 1940s. Mrs. Whitham continued to live in her house for sometime, until she also passed away.

Eugene Horz

Eugene, the third son of Louis and Hermine Horz, came to Canada in 1913 with the rest of his family.

He had just reached manhood at the beginning of the Great Depression. It was a very difficult time for young men as there was no work and no money. Being musical, as were the rest of his family, he was a member of the Horz Brothers Riverbend Ramblers orchestra. He was also artistically inclined and had painted a lovely moonlight scene on the drums.

Eugene had a very clever and inventive mind and a clear understanding of the workings of every type of machine and motor. He was constantly planning, scheming and inventing. Bad luck dogged his steps though, in that it always seemed impossible to get financing to put his plans into motion.

He opened up a small mine along the Pembina River which he called the Devil's Head Mine. He operated it for a few years and was able to try out a few of his ideas. The law required that a bona fide miner be on hand while the mine was operating, so Mr. Horz Sr. stayed around the mine.

He spent several years in the army during World War II.



Louis Horz, Eugene Horz, Mrs. Horz Sr., Mrs. Olga Fausak and Mrs. Lucy Horz.

Eugene built a couple of sawmills, which he operated around the district. He drove a cat, and operated gravel trucks.

He built a hoisting system on the back of his truck to hoist pulpwood onto his truck in anticipation of a job at the huge pulpmill that was going to open at Whitecourt. The hoist worked fine but the mill never got into operation.

Eugene married Mary Romaniuk of Edson. They had two sons, Eugene (Butch) and Marvin.

On August 4, 1962, Eugene was killed when his gravel truck overturned in a water-filled dugout at the Entwistle gravel pit.

Mary and the boys live in Edmonton.

The Grolman Family

My husband, John Paul Constantinus Grolman was born in Utrecht, Holland, in 1891. He studied Civil Engineering in Delft. Then in 1914 he was called up for military duty. He became a Commissioned Officer in World War I. During World War I, while in hospital during a lengthy illness, he continued his studies. After his discharge in 1918

and after obtaining his B. Science degree, he studied law in Leiden.

I, Barendine Sabine Grolman, nee Cheriex, was born in Madjo Sragen, Java, in the Dutch East Indies. I spent my childhood on a sugar plantation. At the age of fourteen I went to Holland and stayed at Haarlem. I studied at Utrecht University.

In 1922, we, the Grolmans decided to immigrate to Canada to start an entirely different life. Convinced by a former uncle's travels, we came out west. While staying at the Corona Hotel in Edmonton, we ventured out looking for land, first in the areas of Neerlandia, Westlock and Barrhead. We stayed only one week and returned to Edmonton. We then met another family from Holland by the name of Mees Van To Hoff. We always remained good friends. We lived with them for awhile. Soon her brother, Frank Bergman, came along and told us about the country west of Edmonton.

We homesteaded then, north of Peers. It was very lonely. Our main meat was partridge, prairie chicken and rabbit. We didn't stay there long and went back to Edmonton for one winter. Then we heard of some Soldier Settlement Board abandoned farms in an area from Wabamun to Stanger. We fell in love with the one on the banks of the Pembina River near Stanger. We bought it from the S.S.B. and started collecting equipment. We bought one cow. Roanie.

Our first visitor was Nels Knudson. Our neighbors were the Bishops and Charlie and Grannie Prine. Soon they all came to see us, the Andersons, Oldhams and, from across the river, Horzs and Biermans.

My mother and sister came from California and my aunt from Holland, but they only stayed two days. They couldn't understand our choice of location. They thought it was wild Indian country.

The next year we bought a Fordson tractor from Bigland who had the Magnolia store at the time.



Mr. and Mrs. Grolman on homestead.



Dorie and Peter Grolman

The same year Walter V. Riezen, a relative, came to live with us and help us. He really enjoyed the country. Four years later he was drowned in the Pembina River when it was at record high. He was coming home from a July 1st dance at Park Court.

Frank Bergman then came to help and lived with us. In the winter I lived in Entwistle in a rented house so the children, Peter and Dorie, could go to school.

In the next ten years, we went twice to California to stay with my mother.



Walter Van Riezen.



Mr. and Mrs. Grolman with Peter and friends.

In 1942 we moved back to Ottawa to make our home. Mr. Grolman died there in 1972. He was buried in Notre Dame Cemetery in Ottawa.

Then in 1977, I came back to the west. Mr. Albert Knudson invited me to visit and see all the old neighbors. I enjoyed seeing them all, but hardly knew the country because of so many changes.

The Osborne Story

by Ed Osborne

On January 3rd, 1932, I left Edmonton bound for a town of which I knew nothing - Evansburg,

Alberta. I had seen this town on the map but it was as remote to me as New York. I had been out of work for four months, very discouraged and fed up with a country where you could not buy a job. I was almost twenty-one years old and the future looked like a dead end. My father, Newt Osborne, and a fellow named Abie Broom were with me, plus one sleigh, two old horses and our worldly possessions. We were headed for a quarter section of land that my father and my brother-in-law had bought from the Evansburg Coal Mine Company. This quarter was two miles north of Evansburg, and was to be paid for with mine timbers to be cut by us and delivered to town. We camped on our new land right across the road from the farm of Tom Hutchinson. We started right in the next day to cut logs and build our first log cabin. In the process, I caught the worst cold I have ever had, and I am sure that if Mrs. Hutchinson had not been so kind and taken me into her home for a few days, I would not have been around Evansburg very long. I will always be thankful to her for that warm bed and the medicine she gave me. The cabin was soon ready and we moved in and our work then centered on clearing the land and cutting the needed mine timbers. The first summer we had enough land cleared for a garden and with this our food problem was eased. Later that year, Abie Broom decided to quit, and as his going also meant that we lost our horses, we were in a pickle. This was overcome by my brother-in-law, who bought a team in Edmonton. I hitched a ride to the city and rode old Bill and Baldy out to Evansburg. That trip took two days and it rained the whole time I was on the road. We continued to clear land and cut mine timbers throughout 1932 and 1934.

One day Bertram Greenwood from Park Court asked me for two weeks work during haying season. I went back to Park Court with him and for the two weeks work he gave me one big old sow who blossomed out with a litter of young pigs after she had been with us for a week. Well, before we had finished eating that old sow, Bertram made me another offer - one big blue Holstein cow for six weeks work at harvest time. I later went to work for Bertram on a crop share basis, and the next three years of my life were spent in the area of Park

Court. During that time I met many people whom I have never forgotten; Bill Ross, Gilbert Greenwood and his family, Eddie Norman, Ike Grant, the Fausak brothers and their families, the Cragos, Alfred Grapentin, Reg Mattice, the Stroshins, the Harkes, and so many others. We built the Park Court hall - all the lumber and labour were donated. Poor Gilbert Greenwood slipped off the roof and broke his foot. This bothered him for years after and there was no compensation. As young people, we made our own fun and that old hall rocked on many a night to the music of the Horz band. That was some band and no other had ever seemed to generate the toe-tapping rhythm that they could. I remember how good the kitchen fire at Matt Young's felt on a cold winter's evening when I would arrive with the Park Court mail from Evansburg; what an exceptional good dancer Mrs. Robert Fausak was; and how good the roast beef and Yorkshire pudding made by Bertram's mother tasted. I remember the "Out of State" dances we went to in Gilbert Greenwood's sleigh and how we cuddled down in the straw and covered up with horse blankets to keep warm. I remember one party at Bertram's place when Eddie Norman showed us how to make a cake. This was after an hour of drinking home brew. Unfortunately Eddie was called out by Gilbert Greenwood to help catch a loose pig that was to be shipped, and we all added some ingredients to Eddie's cake. In the course of this the whole cake batter was thrown out on the ash pile, then retrieved, and when Eddie came back he baked it without knowing what the cake had been through. However when we sampled it - well it was a very good cake. That was the night that Reinhold Harke tried to jump on his horse with a running start through Bertram's front room, across the porch, and then a long jump. Unfortunately he miscalculated and jumped right over the horse and sprained his ankle. I remember the night that Bill Ross and I decided to have a free for all fight. It was a good scuffle and somehow we got to know each other after that and to like each other better. The girls of Evansburg - Park Court were very lovely too. Hilda Bjornstad, Kay McAlpine, Lena Stroshin, Hazel Bjornstad, the Wilsons and many others along with the married women at the hall made the evening dances something to stick in your



Ed Osborne and friend ashore at Port Sudan on the Red Sea - 1939. Troopship Nevasa in background.



Mrs. Ed Osborne with son and friends in Park Court.



Mr. Newt Osborne with dog in 1934 outside his house on his farm.

memory. I can remember Reggie Mattice selling home brew at the dances for five cents a cup-full; the one cup had no handle and was passed from one to the other.

Well it all had to come to an end and in the late summer of 1935 a heavy hail storm swept through Park Court and Bertram could not afford to have me. So off I went back to Edmonton. I worked as a taxi driver for two months and then harvested around Edmonton. After that I went to a farm job at Athabasca, Alberta, where I milked and cared for twenty-five cows. In early spring Bill Ross wrote to me that he was going back to England and would I like to go with him. Well I had fifteen dollars so I said I would. We left Edmonton on May 1st, 1936, and rode the freights to St. John, New Brunswick, caught a cattle boat, and worked our way to his home at Hawarden in England. I still had fifty cents left when we got there. I worked on his father's farm until some time in September and then joined the Royal Air Force. In the R.A.F. I spent training time at stations Manston, Henlow and Thorney Island. In 1939 I met a beautiful girl, Betty Southerden. We were married in September of that year and not long after that I was posted to India. Betty followed me at a later date. I sailed from the port of Southampton on the troop ship Nevasa. The trip was beautiful. We sailed through the Bay of Biscay, the Mediterranean to our first stop at Malta. On to the Suez Canal, the Red Sea and up to Basra in Iraq. From there we went to Karachi, India. When Betty joined me we had married quarters at that station and at Amballa where I was later posted. The war had started by that time and after a total of five years I was posted back to England. I served in Bomber Command until January, 1945, when I transferred to the Royal Canadian Air Force. At the war's end I returned to Edmonton. My father had sold the farm and was living in Evansburg. There he died and is buried in the Evansburg cemetery.

Reggie and Stella Mattice

by Stella (Mattice) Wilson

I moved to Park Court in 1930 when I married Reg Mattice. We went to live on Reg's homestead

which was SE 21-55-7-5. We had a little log house and times were very hard. The depression was on and jobs were not to be found.

We did not lack entertainment as there was a dance or box social or whist drive almost every week, especially in the winter. In the summer there were ball games and picnics.

There was no such thing as a baby sitter so we took the children with us wherever we went and we all enjoyed the outing. Reg was usually called on to be floor manager and square dance caller. There would always be several square dances, circle two-steps and waltz quadrilles to be led at every dance.

Reg also worked as auctioneer at many local sales.

Mr. Matthew Young was postmaster during my time in Park Court. We picked up our mail once a week.

A United Church minister used to come out once a month.

The three boys who drowned in the Pembina River just one and one-half miles from our homestead in August, 1936 were laid to rest in the United Church Cemetery at Park Court. They were Carl Horz, aged twenty one, Eddie Fausak, aged seventeen and Hellmut Grapentin, aged fourteen.

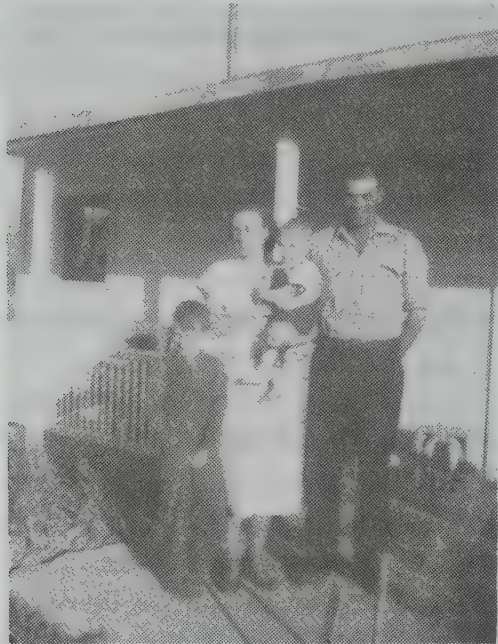
In the early days and even during my time, all the land was cleared with an axe and grub hoe. It was then broken with horses and breaking plow - one furrow at a time.

The grain was cut with horses pulling the binder. The sheaves were stooked by hand to dry. The threshing outfit went from farm to farm until all the grain in the neighborhood was threshed. The hay was also cut with a horse drawn mower and raked with a horse-drawn dump rake. It was then piled into cocks with pitch forks. It was finally hauled in and stacked for winter. The work was all very hard.

While we lived in Park Court two children were



Mr. and Mrs. Reg Mattice with daughter Jean.



Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Mattice with sons Bobby and Donnie.



(L—R) Mr. E. Mattice, Stella, Mrs. E. Mattice, Jean Mattice, Lil. Mattice, Reg. Mattice, Bobby Mattice.

born to us, Jean in 1934 and Robert in 1944.

In the late 1940's Reg got a job with Commonwealth Drilling and we moved into Evansburg. Donald was born in 1950.

The Evansburg Creamery (Valley Dairies) started trucking cream from the farms to the plant and Reg got a job driving one of the trucks. He hauled from the Wildwood, Tomahawk, Seba Beach, Fallis and Magnolia areas. He continued with this work until his death in September, 1968. He is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

Soon after we moved to Evansburg I started doing custom sewing. It would be impossible to count the number of wedding gowns, graduation gowns, and dress outfits I made through the years. Some outfits had to be altered three or four times before they were finished as the person would diet and lose weight and then put it back on so they would be a different size at every fitting. It always gave me a nice feeling to know I had had a part in the success of the special occasion for which the gown had been made.

Our daughter Jean married Peter Pawliw. They had four children - Carol, Barbara, Pat and Reg. Jean and Peter were divorced and she is now married to Bob Spreen. They have two boys, Robert, who is seventeen and Darcy, who is eleven.

Carol married Gary Messenger. They have two boys and live in St. Albert.

Barbara married Dennis Palmer. They moved to England where he is teaching school.

Pat and his wife Laine live in Hinton.

Reg lives in Edmonton and works at Leduc in oilfield work.

Our son Robert married Linda May. They have three children - Reggie, twelve, Shirley Ann, ten, and Bobby, who is eight. They live in Fox Creek.

Donnie lives in Edmonton and works at Zamma Lake.

In 1971 I married John Wilson and we are living in my home in Evansburg.

Leonty Kulaba Family

Leonty Kulaba served in the Austrian Army during the first World War. When he returned from the war, he was married to Malania Sira in Sokoliwka, province of Zlockow in Western Ukraine.

He was a tailor by trade and a farmer on the side. He heard about Canada, "the land of milk and honey where land was cheap and jobs a-plenty."

In 1930, the family of four immigrated to Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Canada. By that time, the depression had hit the country. Jobs were few and wages low. After a year in Saskatchewan with Mrs. Kulaba's sister, Helen Diakou, Leonty decided to look for greener pastures as drought had hit the prairies. He went to Alberta and filed on a homestead which was cancelled for lumber by Mickey McCormick, a lumber man of that day. Another homestead was filed on, this time in the Park Court area and it became the home of the Kulaba family.

The thirties on the homestead were hard. First the land had to be cleared of timber. All this was done by hand. The first cow was purchased from John Horboway, a black and white Holstein which started a herd. Horses were used for farm work and transportation.

The Kulaba girls, Emma and Anna, walked four miles to the school in Park Court. Their first teacher was Miss Vowels, born in China of Missionary parents. Miss Vowels, an accomplished pianist, had her students sing hymns every morning.

For entertainment, dances were held in schools. Later, Park Court Community Hall was built and



Mr. Kulaba before coming to Canada (He is on the left side.)



Mrs. Kulaba before coming to Canada. She is on the right side.

to this day it is the central part of the community.

In the forties homestead life became somewhat easier, from horses to trucks and tractors. Kulabas also built a new home.

Mr. Kulaba donated several acres of his homestead on which a Ukrainian Catholic church was built. The priest came from Edmonton once a month and held services. He stayed with the Kulaba family while in Park Court.

In 1951, Mr. Kulaba passed away suddenly from a heart attack. Anna and Mrs. Kulaba moved to Evansburg for several years. In 1969, they moved to Edmonton where Anna still resides. In 1978, Mrs. Kulaba passed away at the age of ninety.

Emma was married in Park Court in 1945 to Jim Hendry of the United States Army Air Force. They had four children; Marilyn, Dianne, Sam, and Jeff. Jim passed away in 1954 when the children were small. They spent many a summer on the farm with Grandma Kulaba and Aunt Anna. Now, they live in various parts of the United States.

In 1969, Emma married Louis Schnebly, a superintendent of schools in Montana. They are now retired and live in Salem, Oregon.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Kopyczyn

by Ann Senetza

Dad was born on November 21, 1900 at Galicia, Poland. He worked on a cooperative farm before joining the Polish army when he was eighteen years old. He then decided to immigrate to Canada as land was plentiful and easy to obtain. In Poland, the land was all owned by the landlords and you just owned the house.

He left Poland from the Port of Danzig on April 19, 1928, arriving in Hull, Quebec on April 23, 1928. After a short stay, he arrived by C.N.R. at Edmonton on May 11, 1928.

While in Edmonton, he worked at Swift's Packing Plant while waiting for his application for a homestead in Park Court to be finalized.

While waiting, he met Mom through some friends and they were married on April 22, 1931.

Mom was born at Knihenicze, Poland on September 18, 1903. She immigrated to Canada in May, 1930 to seek a better future. Upon her arrival, she worked as a housekeeper until her marriage. They came to the homestead in the Park Court area in 1931.

The homestead was all bush so they had to grub the trees by hand in order to build a log house. Dad helped different neighbors. He was not paid in money but in food so that they would have food for the winter. He also helped build roads and the Catholic church.

He would walk cross-country with a gunny sack on his back to pick up the mail at Matthew Young's house where the Post Office was located.

Everything was done by hand and horses. He plowed the fields with a walking plow and seeded by hand. There were a lot of hardships. If they wanted to go anyplace, it was either walk or travel with horses and wagon.

The only entertainment was attending church on Sundays and Christmas concerts in the Park Court School or Collynie School. We would go with sleigh and horses, all bundled up in straw and quilts which were warmed up by the wood stove before we left home.

Mom and Dad had a family of three children. Catherine is married to Al Fowler and living in Regina, Saskatchewan where they have a family of two, Patrick and Lisa. William (Bill) is married to Violet Wlad of Spirit River. They live on an acreage at Spruce Grove. They have a family of three, Colleen, Wilton and Vonne. He is in the road construction business - Ed and Bill's Construction.

I am married to Jim Senetza whose family moved to the Gowanbrae area in 1941. We have a family of three, Joanne, Jerry and Janice. We live in Evansburg.

I remember Dad saying that when I was born (we

were all born at home with Mrs. Kulaba as the midwife), Mom told him to make chicken soup for her, so he butchered the chicken, cleaned it and put it to cook. After a while, he checked it and noticed wheat and barley in the juice. He said, "I do not remember putting that in the soup." Then Mom asked him if he cleaned the gizzard. This he had forgotten to do.

Mom and Dad left the farm in 1966 and moved to Evansburg. Dad passed away in 1978 and Mom is residing in a nursing home in Sherwood Park.

The farm was inherited by son, William, so it will be kept in the family for years to come.

Onufrey and Alexandra Hotra

as written by Mike Hotra

Onufrey Hotra came to Canada from the Ukraine in 1928, leaving behind his wife Alexandra and four children, Annie, Mike, William and Olga. Sophie was born in Alberta. With him, also came two of his neighbors, Mike Kopyczyn and Dmytro Naumyc and a cousin, Sam Hotra. They landed in Edmonton in the early spring and began looking for work. Wages were poor and work was scarce. Dad got a job working on the railroad out of Blue River in British Columbia. When he got laid off, he came back to Edmonton and started to look for land on which to settle. He met John Dubetz, who was living in the Park Court district. He said there was still land available that could be homesteaded.

Dad got a map from the land office and went out looking for land. He filed his homestead on the NE 5-55-7-W5. Mike Kopyczyn took the land across the road and Dmytro Naumyc took a quarter one mile west. That winter they all stayed with John Dubetz in his little shack, working out whenever they could get a few days of work. They managed to build a house on Dad's homestead before spring. It was made of round poplar logs cut in half so there was a straight wall on the inside. The cracks between the logs were filled with moss and held in place by nailing small rails over the cracks. The floor and ceiling were covered with boards that were sawn by hand.



The first home on homestead of Mr. and Mrs. O. Hotra.

In 1929, Dad sent for his brother, Mike, who also took a homestead in the area.

These were tough times, but with hard work and a lot of faith, they managed to clear a little land and get settled. In the spring of 1930, Dad brought us over to Canada. I remember getting off the train in Evansburg, where we were met by my Uncle Mike. He got us all loaded into an old car that was converted into a truck and the man took us to the homestead. We got off half a mile from the farm, as there was no road, just a trail. Dad was there to meet us. He was at home that day getting the house ready for us when he noticed a lot of smoke out in the yard. The men had been burning some brush piles the day before and now the wind had started the grass burning and it was heading for the barn, which they had just built out of squared logs. There was bark and chips all around and once this caught fire, there was nothing Dad could do. He managed to backfire the house and save it, but the barn was burned up. It was a hard way to start, but we were happy to be together again.

The years that followed were a real challenge. Dad had to work out clearing land for other farmers in exchange for things that we needed. For example he cleared twenty acres for Mr. Stroshin for a team of horses and ten acres for Joe Stewart for a wagon. I remember Dad teaming up with Mike Maruska to put in the crop in the spring. The first few years the wheat was cut with a scythe and cradle and a sickle and tied with straw into bundles, which were later stacked in the yard. In the winter, Dad cleared off the snow between two buildings



Mr. and Mrs. O. Hotra and family also Fred Wyshynski

and made ice. The bundles were stored up around the ice to keep the grain from scattering while it was threshed with a flail. The grain was then cleaned by throwing it from one end of the ice to the other and then it was sacked. Dad used to take some of the wheat to Mr. Stroshin to get it ground on a grinder that was powered by a team of horses walking in a circle around the grinder. Mother used to sift the flour and the fine part would make bread and the coarse cracked wheat would make porridge. We never went hungry, but we did eat our share of wild rabbits and partridge.

We went to Park Court School, which was four miles away, carrying our lunches in lard pails. Sometimes in the winter, Dad would drive us to school. Despite the hardships, people used to get together in the evenings to visit and play cards. Both Mother and Dad loved to sing. Our place was always open for small parties and get-togethers.

In 1932, Dad and Mike Kopyczyn took out naturalization papers. They did not have enough money for train fare to Edmonton, so they walked, as they were scared of being caught if they rode the freight train. The first night they slept in a farmer's field near Duffield, by making a bed out of oat bundles. That day they walked as far as Stony Plain, where they were picked up by a farmer who

was going into Edmonton to look for men to help with his harvest. It turned out that the farmer was German and Dad could speak German. After getting their papers, they ended up working for this farmer till harvest was over.

Both Mother and Dad were very much involved with the formation of the St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Parish in 1933 and later in the building of the church.

Dad built a new house out of squared logs in 1940. It was a big change from the little one room house to which we had become accustomed.

As the family grew up, things became a little easier, with more help to clear land and to do chores while Dad was out working.

In 1942, I joined the army and served overseas for four years.

In 1943, William bought the Tomkinson place and continued to farm with Dad. He also worked out, mainly in lumber camps. I bought the home place from Dad in 1948 through the V.L.A. William and I farmed as a partnership along with Dad, buying Fred Everett's place in 1950. I also took out a homestead.

We lost our mother in 1951. She died after a lengthy illness.

William was going to move on to the Everett place. We had the cement poured for the house, when we found out that William had multiple sclerosis. We continued to farm together, building up the farm and getting better machinery. We got our threshing machine in 1959 and did a lot of custom work over the next few years. Then we got a combine in 1963. By this time everybody was getting more land opened up and doing their own harvesting, as the combines did not need much labor. We had a farm sale in 1961, selling all the cattle and small machinery and getting into registered Herefords.

Dad retired and moved to Edmonton in 1963. He passed away in 1965 from a heart attack. William was confined to a wheelchair by this time, so we sold the cattle and moved to Evansburg. After six years in a nursing home in Mayerthorpe, William passed away in 1975.

Annie married Theodore Wyshynski. They are farming in the Park Court district. They have three boys, Walter, Bill and Joe, who are all farming in the area.

Olga married Steve Slemko. They live on a farm in the Jalna district. They have three children. Sonya is married to Byron Brown and they live in Swan Hills. They have one son, Christopher. Larry married Susanne Blahun and they have two daughters, Kim and Michelle. They are now living on the original Hotra farmstead and farming with me. Kenny, the youngest, is still at home farming with his dad.

Sophie married Don Hunter and they are living in Sherwood Park. They are involved in the oil business. They also have three children, Gary, Jimmy and Leslie, all living at home.

I am living in Evansburg and still farming with the help of my nephew, Larry.

The Prokop Rosadiuk Family

by Sharon Rosadiuk and Ruth (Rosadiuk) Stayko

Six acres divided among three sons, does not make for a large inheritance for a young man in a village of the Ukraine. Then, of course, that two-acre parcel would have to be divided among future sons. Keeping such prospects in mind, it is not unusual that Canada, with its promise of acres of virgin soil, held such appeal for the many Ukrainian "Sons of the Soil". And so it was for the twenty year old Prokop Rosadiuk.

It was autumn in Mali Obzir, and spring was to see him on his way to required army service. Strange that authorities allowed him to leave for Canada - but even more strange was that he would

consider himself lucky, arriving in the "Promised Land" at the brink of the "dirty thirties".

The twelve day voyage was just awful! Every last seasoned sailor of the ship's crew was seasick, with the exception of one Ukrainian. His healthy stomach he attributed to a regular healthy dose of garlic, but, oh well, the others weren't in the mood for socializing anyway!

Coming to Canada was not altogether an isolated move by one impulsive individual. There was somebody's brother who had come who had settled here, and had collected addresses from so-and-so who had been there, and said that such-and-such. . . By word of mouth, the best and fastest advertising, choices were made by many a Ukrainian farmer to settle where he did. That, of course, along with a bit of joblessness, hunger and "free" rides in boxcars, contributed to dispersing the immigrants.

September 4, 1930, Medicine Hat, Alberta. There were two job possibilities: one was to work travelling the C.P. Railroad bunk cars bridge-fixing like his brother, the other was sheep-ranching. Well, a slightly-built twenty-year-old with hair closely shaven just didn't look the part of a railroad worker, and remarks such as "Have you been through school yet?" made the choice obvious. Prokop Rosadiuk became a sheep-ranch hand.

But the hard times were being felt. Spring lambing was finished; jobs everywhere were scarce. With three hundred dollars which he had saved, in hand, once again he had to move on. His brother



Mr. and Mrs. P. Rosadiuk and friends at their Wedding.

George was in Evansburg. Maybe possibilities would be there. And so it was. The three hundred dollars was paid for a quarter section of land from an old American gentleman and so the stage was set for home-making.

It was a humble existence. Chickens, eggs, and vegetables provided the physical sustenance and the spiritual needs were fulfilled by church services in Round Valley. It was there that the sixteen year old Mary (Maria) Udchitz caught his fancy.

She had arrived in 1938 with her mother, sister Susie (Zofia) and brother John. Father Anthony Udchitz had been preparing a livelihood in Canada ten years before, sending for his family in Mihalka, White Russia. However it was unfortunate that, by then, the eldest daughter, Ann, was married and could not accompany the family. Indeed, their history had followed its own unique course, and they, as well, continued as best they could, making decisions and choices as necessary.

Schooling would have been nice for Mary, but as she was sixteen and the eldest, with the language barrier to overcome first, the sensible thing was to work to earn some money. She cleared land with a grub hoe, became a cook's helper in lumber camps, and cleaned house for fifty cents a day.

On February 9, 1941, Prokop Rosadiuk and Mary Udchitz were married. A two-room mine house, moved from Evansburg, became their home. A log barn and two horses were the extent of their material gains. Prokop borrowed a walking plow from his brother. Mr. Bonko rented the land and paid the rent in crop share. But, of course, good crops could not be guaranteed. The wedding presents - a sack of flour, half a moose, a quarter of a pig - would not last forever, so it was necessary to find work to help support the growing family. The twelve dollar a month earned at McCormick's logging camp helped in providing the goods that could not be raised on a farm.

Certainly self-sufficiency and courage were very important in making a life in the bush. Neighbors and stores were far away along the old logging trails. Wild animals were very close. But interaction



Mrs. P. Rosadiuk with girls.



Mr. and Mrs. Rosadiuk Family
(B.R.) Mr. Rosadiuk, Raya, Lillian, Rosie, Mrs. Rosadiuk
(F.R.) Victor, Ruth, Sharon, Anthony, Annie.

with others and neighborliness were also necessary. How Mary wished to be able to chat over the fence with a neighbor as they could in the Old Country! Church gatherings were a great strength. In 1946, the little Ukrainian Baptist church was erected to meet their needs.

Meanwhile, the Prokop Rosadiuk family was growing. Fred was the first of nine, but presumably born prematurely, he died eight days later. Surely there was happiness in the Rosadiuk household when all the others were born healthy and without complications. All deliveries, with the exception of Victor, were made at home with the aid of self-taught mid-wives, (Prokop and Mrs. Julia Semenyna), to tie the umbilical cord.

Along with the joy of having children, came the responsibilities of which schooling was a major one. Since the Gowanbrae school had closed down because of lack of teachers, Evansburg School became the next best choice. Mr. Neuhold provided the transportation but even so, seven year old Raya had to walk over a mile through bush trails. Since it is the habit of children to be easily distracted, she quite often missed her ride. With winter quickly approaching, the situation became more serious and Prokop and Mary had to come up with a solution. A move was necessary. Prokop sold his farm to John Semenyna, purchased the Elless property, and moved his family, which then included Raya, Lillian, Rose, Annie and Ruth, to their new home.

With only seven acres of cleared land, Prokop's and Mary's work was cut out for them. By this time, caterpillars were available for land clearing, usually clearing ten to fifteen acres at a time, but roots and rocks had to be picked by hand. Sharon, Victor and Anthony had arrived during this time. Raising eight children with no baby sitters was no easy matter!

But time did not stand still. The children grew up as children will and one by one they left home to begin new lives of their own. So, the history continues in its new generations.

Raya married Nick Koleba from Edmonton. They have two teenage daughters still living at home going to school. They live on a homestead in Little Smokey, Alberta.

Lillian married Al Gardner. They have three children, two boys and one girl. They are living on a small farm in Lumby, B.C.

Rosie is living in Edmonton. She is a dental assistant there.

Annie married Gunnar Schmidt-Paborn, from Germany. They have five children, three boys and two girls. They live in Edmonton, Alberta.

Ruthie married David Stayko. They have three children, two boys and one girl. They live in Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

Sharon is a court-reporter, living in Hinton, Alberta.

Victor married Gina (Diesing) from Evansburg. They have three children, two girls and one boy. They are farming in the Park Court area.

Anthony married Donna (Able) from Edmonton. They have one girl. They are also farming in the Park Court area.

Bill Ross

by Bill Ross

I, Bill Ross, left school when I was sixteen. I lived and worked on the farm with Father and Mother, two sisters and one brother. We had come from Ireland in 1920 to Aston Hall Farm, Hawarden. I did not get on very well with my father - he was very hard to please. In September, 1929, I got a job in Summer's Steelworks which only lasted until Christmas when the works were shut down for two weeks. When we went back to work, which in my case was on a Monday night for the night shift. I was one of two hundred who were given their cards and told to get another job somewhere else. But it was impossible to get work in 1930.

I saw an advertisement in a paper, "Boys fourteen to nineteen wanted for Canada", so I got in touch. On April 5th, 1930, which was a Saturday morning, we set sail for Canada in the S.S. Nova Scotia. We arrived in St. Johns, Newfoundland, on Good Friday and left there on Easter Monday for Halifax, where we left the boat and got on the train for Regina. Somehow I ended up in Edmonton, where there was a hostel on 106 Street. From there we were sent out to jobs on farms and guaranteed ten dollars per month and our board. The first job I had was with Andy Brass at Duffield. He had a wagon and hauled livestock into Edmonton and then took stores back to shops, etc. His father-in-law had a lot of land and grew a lot of barley. I think we had about two months threshing with four teams. I remember they were long days but I enjoyed them. I am not sure, but when I finished with Brass in November, 1930, I went to Don Caudle at



Bill Ross ploughing on G. Greenwood's farm.

Evansburg. Then I think I went to Joe Stewart in Park Court.

I don't quite remember when I went to the following places, but I did go. The first work was on a ninety-seven cow farm at Leduc, run by a farmer named Hoskins. The wages were fifteen dollars a month and board. (A pity I didn't realize then that the ground was full of oil!!) I only lasted there three weeks. He did not like the way I milked his cows. I did not either - you had to strip them with vaseline. Then I had a spell with a Mr. Rodgers at Gibbons who had three or four cows and one hundred and fifty chickens that were neither giving any milk nor laying any eggs. Well, they were nice people, had a wonderful cook and great food, so I went to the trouble of seeing that he had plenty of milk and lots of eggs. I was there until the spring seeding was done.

I spent some time with a Mr. Fulmer at Edson where I worked at a portable sawmill sawing railway sleepers. I worked for Alfred Proehl in Park Court where I ended up with yellow jaundice.

Then I worked for Gilbert Greenwood - that was a great place - and his good wife looked after me. I left Proehl's in March and it was the end of June before I did any work. When I did start, Gilbert offered me one hundred bushels of wheat if I would stay until after the threshing was finished. I remember I got twenty-seven dollars for the grain, but one did not need money - we had good food, good

company and good health. What more can one want? We used to have great fun with Mrs. Greenwood Sr., Bertram, the Grants, Hoggs, Oldhams, Cragos, Horz, Clarks and Wilsons, etc. We got the mail from Matt Young on Saturday night or Sunday mornings. There was always such a lot to do - the whist drives and dances in the old school, or going off to some other district to a dance or a surprise party.

Then I bought a quarter section from Alfred Proehl. I know it was S.E. quarter, but what the section number was I do not know.

In early 1936 my mother and sisters asked me to return home to North Wales to look after the farm as my father had broken his thigh in 1935 and would never be able to bend his leg again. I sold or gave away the two cows, two calves and four horses, etc. Alfred Proehl took the quarter back for three years as I intended just going home for three years. It has been a long time as I am still here, nearly forty-six years.

In April 1936 I met Eddie Osborne on the street in Edmonton a day or so before I was due to travel home. After talking to him he said he would go with me. We did not have much money so that meant riding the freight trains to Montreal where we had to pick up Ed's passport and then hope to get a boat to Liverpool. It was very cold, plenty of snow about and very cold at night, but we had plenty of warm clothes. After eleven p.m. we were the only people on the freight to Calgary, then to Medicine Hat, and to Winnipeg where we stayed for a day or two. We had the cheapest food we ever heard of and as much as we could eat in good cafes on the main street for fifteen cents. Then we went on to Callander or North Bay, I forget which, but the freight slowed up and we thought it was stopping for water so we jumped off but we were wrong. We had to wait twenty four hours for the next freight. We spent the day walking to where the Dionne Quints lived. We could not see them but we did take a photo of the line of napkins. I had to take two snaps which, when correctly fitted end to end, showed the full line of napkins.

We got to Montreal and picked up Ed's passport in Lachine. The docks were still full of ice so there were no boats and we had to get to St. John, New Brunswick. We got off the freight at two p.m. on a Thursday and went to the C.P. shipping offices to book for the Liverpool boat that sailed on the Friday. It was full up! We were still short of money and eventually managed to get passage on a Manchester liner sailing at five p.m. We got on at ten minutes to five. Then we had twelve days of good eating and sleeping. There were seven hundred and ten head of live cattle on the boat which were put off at Birkenhead. If we could have got off there, we would have been home in less than two hours, but we were only allowed off at Manchester docks. Later the boat tied up at Runcorn because it was not allowed to travel at night. We had to sleep at the Manchester Ship Canal all night, so it was twenty-seven hours later when we arrived at Aston Hall Farm.

I have not had many holidays since 1947, just odd trips to factories in Europe. In 1963 I went to Chicago, 1970 to the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto and again in 1972. In 1970 I spent four days with Ed Osborne in Montreal and again in 1972 in Winnipeg to where he had moved. I also spent two days in Edmonton with Mrs. K. Crago. She had quite a party for me and it was wonderful. Then in 1980 my wife, Marion, and I spent three weeks in Canada. We flew from Manchester to Edmonton, and were taken out to the Park Court celebrations for Alberta's 75th Anniversary. It was great meeting so many people whom I had known and met in the past. Edward Greenwood and his wife looked after us and showed us around.

The Fred (Alfred L.) Fausak Story

by Hazel Fausak

Fred was born in Germany, immigrating to Canada in 1929 at the age of five. He went to school in Park Court and at the age of nineteen he joined the army. He served overseas for over three years and on discharge he returned home to Park Court, in March, 1946.

I, Hazel Bjornstad, was born in Park Court, and

until 1940 had lived most of my life in the Evansburg area. During the war I worked for the R.A.F. Transport Command first at Dorval Airport, Montreal and then in Gander, Newfoundland. I came home in April, 1946.

We were married in 1947 and moved on to the old August Harke place - NW-3-55-7-W5. It had a log house and barn and a well with the softest water imaginable. Youngs were our next door neighbors to the east and as Mr. Young seemed to have a never-ending supply of plants to give us, we did a great deal of landscaping during the nine years we lived on that farm.

Also while we lived on the Harke place seven of our children were born - Maureen in 1948, MaryBelle in 1949, Valerie in 1950, John in 1951, Faye in 1953, Helen in 1954 and Fern in 1955. Since our road was not a market road, it was not often plowed in winter. We were quite isolated and the children had to walk down to the main road at Albert Fausak's corner to catch the school bus.

During the early fifties community interest was at a low ebb, and Fred was very active in trying to keep the Park Court Farmer's Community Club afloat. Many dances saw only Margaret and George Young and Fred and I there until midnight.

A group of the younger women founded the Gay Gatherers Club in order to get out and mix with others in similar circumstances, e.g., small children - no money.

During this time I learned to drive and thereby gained a new freedom and independence.

In December 1956 we moved to the old farmhouse in which I had been born, (SW-20-54-7-W5). It was cold and cramped but it was only five miles from town and on the main road. Floyd was born in 1957 and Geneve in 1958. Even though I had had my heart set on thirteen children when we got married, I now thought nine was a good place to put a full stop.

Fred was elected to the Edson School Divisional Board in 1957 and has been on it continuously ever



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fausak and Maureen.



The Fred Fausak family ready for school with Alfred Proehl as bus driver.

since. He has been Chairman of the Board on three different periods and was able to share in the decisions to build both Evansview Elementary School and Grand Trunk High School in Evansburg. His being on the board affected the whole family by bringing to us all friendships and insights, problems and conflicts we would otherwise have never known. I think it has made us all just a little more tolerant.

Fred has been very active in other community affairs - being on many other boards such as the Drayton Valley Hospital Board, Alberta Development Corporation, Lobstick Gas Co-op., Canadian Legion, Improvement District Advisory Committee, and Park Court Farmer's Community Club. In 1971 he was named Citizen of the Year.

For a few years I was secretary of the Evansburg Home and School Association and many years in the Gay Gatherers. For six years with Margaret Young and Audrey Langer as assistants, I led the Pembina Valley 4H Garden Club. During this time the 4H members planted the spruce trees around the Park Court hall grounds and dedicated each tree to a pioneering district family.

Another most enjoyable activity in which I participated was staging the annual Christmas Concerts in the Park Court Hall for several years. Margaret Young was a whiz at making costumes. We mothers put in so much effort but I'm sure we all look back on the trials and delights of those concerts as some of the most fun we had.

For two years all nine of our children were riding on the school bus driven by Alfred Proehl. It was the record for the Yellowhead School Division for "most children of one family on a bus at one time."

We built a new house in 1961 and moved in just after my dad died in 1962. I had had the wish to not move into the new house until it was finished. I gave up that idea though - and a good thing or we would still be waiting to move in.

For four years we had an egg run to Hinton. On Friday after school, Floyd and I picked up crates of eggs from around Stony Plain and Duffield. On Saturday we got the crates from Tuftins, Farrells and ourselves and hauled them to Hinton. We had between ninety and one hundred crates on the load each week. We sold them by the crate and delivered them to customers all over Hinton. The last two years we had the run, John handled it with one or two others of the family to help him. It was a good family job.

Our children all completed their High School in Evansburg.

Maureen went to University of Alberta for two years, then taught at Evergreen Elementary School in Edson for a year. She married Bob Graf of Regina. He works for Mobil Oil Company. They lived for five years in Dallas, Texas and are now in



The Fred Fausak Family

(L—R) (Back Row) Hazel, Faye, Fred, Valerie (graduate), John, MaryBelle. (Front Row) (L—R) Maureen, Geneve, Helen, Floyd and Fern, 1968.

Stavanger, Norway. They have two sons, Paul and Heath and one daughter Megan.

MaryBelle received her Bachelor of Education Degree from University of Alberta, Edmonton. She married Mark Thompson, who received his Bachelor of Education Degree from University of Alberta, Calgary. They live on an acreage about half way between Evansburg and Wildwood. MaryBelle teaches at Grand Trunk High School in Evansburg and Mark teaches in Wildwood. They have two daughters, Brandy and Hazel and one son John.

Valerie obtained her Bachelor of Education Degree and taught at Hinton and Evansburg. She married Jim Boyer of Wildwood, who works with heavy equipment. They presently live in Evansburg where she teaches and works in our store. They have one son, Jordan.

John took a gas technology course at N.A.I.T. He has been employed by Esso Resources at their Rainbow Lake plant for nearly ten years.

Fay went to work as a telephone operator after graduation but was not happy with that so went to University of Alberta and received her Bachelor of Education Degree, too. She taught at Fort McMurray and Wildwood. She married Lawrence Hill

of Wildwood, who is a computer programmer. They have two children, Max and Abby and live on an acreage at Wabamun.

Helen went to work at the Glenrose Hospital soon after graduating. After only one year, on August 12, 1973, she was in a very serious car accident. She died on September 5, 1973 and is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery. Losing Helen was a devastating blow to us all. It made us think deeper than we had ever done before. We all have a clear realization of the fragility of life, and we must not wait too long to show each other we care. Above all we must consider "after life" because Helen is there.

Fern worked for A.G.T. and then as receptionist for Grimshaw Trucking. Finally she went to University of Alberta, from where she is about to graduate with a degree in Education. She and Allen Liknes have two children, Lucas and Katy.

Floyd worked for Alberta Transportation, and then for C.N.R. He is now apprenticing at plumbing with Johnson Controls, in Edmonton as well as helping with the farming at home.

Geneve worked for the Apprenticeship Board and then at Community Resource Centre. She now works for Western Industrial Research and Training Centre as training supervisor in charge of plastics.

In 1979. MaryBelle, Valerie and I opened a shop in Evansburg called Kidstuff 'n' General.

In a big family calamities are the order of the day



Maureen Fausak with Chum, 1949.

but a couple of incidents stand out in my memory.

In March, 1958, a month before Geneve was born, all eight children came down with mumps and measles - who didn't have mumps had measles. They were too sick to go out to play and too well to stay in bed. We were living in the old house at the time with an approximate floor area of twenty four by twenty six feet. A couple were playing house, a couple were playing cutouts, some playing tents with blankets and all generally messing around. When the confusion was at its peak, a knock on the door brought Mr. Macphee with a Mrs. Ell and her daughter. The daughter had been born in that house and wanted to take a picture of the room she was born in. Needless to say she changed her mind when she saw the bedroom which was wall to wall clothes, blankets tents etc. The expression on Mrs. Ell's face seemed to be thanking God she wasn't me.

Another time in that same bedroom one of the younger children crawled under a kneehole desk and lit a match. It caught on the plastic curtain and flared up the window. Fred had just left to go to Fekete's place. I tried to put it out with water from the tap but when I could see I was losing ground I phoned to Central - Stella Hale - and asked her to phone Kurt to come and help me. I was sure the house was going to go but I wanted to get out the "most important things." This I decided was the trunk upstairs with pictures and keepsakes. It was wedged in a corner but I got it loose and down the steep stairs. I was struggling to turn the corner with it and Lo! and Behold! just about everyone in Park Court was there. They had the fire out in just a few minutes. A saving factor had been the plastered walls on the house.

Stella had put in a long general call and told the whole community at once! I know we owed the saving of our home to Stella Hale and the wonderful neighbors who dropped what they were doing and came to help.

Since our idea was to try as many things as we could to give us all the most experience and exposure possible, it would be impossible to even list all the ventures upon which we embarked. We were



Helen Fausak

always thankful however, that after the war we chose to come back to Alberta to live on a farm. We had the political climate to try anything we dreamed and the space to try anything our pocket-book would allow.

Paul Smolley Family

by Katie Smolley

I, Katie Dzogola came to Canada at the age of thirteen from Poland in 1933 with my mother and two brothers, Mike and Jack Dzogola. We settled in Rochfort Bridge with my dad Alex Dzogola who had preceded us.

Paul Smolley came to Canada in 1938 at the age of twenty-seven. We, Paul and Katie, met and were married. Then we settled on a homestead in Park Court.

Our first home was a shack about sixteen feet by twelve feet. When it rained the roof leaked. I had to collect water in pots to keep the bed from getting wet. Then we had two children, Alex and Annie. Alex stayed with my parents through the winter. Annie stayed with me while Paul worked out, first in lumber camps and then in coal mines. I looked



Annie and Konstantin Smolley, Paul and Katie Smolley with Alex and Annie Smolley, 1945.

after a few animals, cut my own wood for fuel and melted snow for animals and laundry. One spring I had a setting hen on some turkey eggs which was a big investment for me. The setting hen decided half way through the hatching session to abandon the eggs. I tried to coax her by whacking her on the back - accidentally too hard because she keeled over and died. I had a good cry because at that time it was a big loss.

Then we moved to a two room log house. To me it was a mansion. We cleared some land and started farming with some small horse implements and a Fordson tractor. Later we bought an old car and bigger machinery.

The family increased to include Jean, Danny and Lena.

We moved to Edmonton in 1967.

The Fred Horz Family

by Enid

Fred Horz, the second son of Louis and Hermine Horz came with his family from Westphalia, Germany, in 1913. His father had come to Canada a year earlier, and after working in the Maritimes for a few months, he came west to work in the mine in Evansburg.

For a short time they lived in the village of Evans-

burg, but as Mr. Horz had filed on a quarter some twelve miles north east of town (much farther by river) they moved out to the homestead as soon as possible. They moved via the Pembina River on a raft.

Their first buildings had log walls and lumber rafters. The roof was sheets of tin. Fred had vivid memories of the din of the rain on the roof and the water dripping through the nail holes.

The children of Louis and Hermine Horz were Louis, Frederick, Clara (Hedwig), Eugene, and baby Walter, who died shortly after their arrival. Carl was born in Canada later.

Louis Horz Sr. returned to work in the mine for several winters while they were getting their farm established. Mothers and children had to be very resourceful and self reliant in those days, in raising gardens for food and trapping or shooting small animals for meat.

After the school was built in 1914, the younger members of the family attended when they could as roads were non-existent.

Mr. Horz was a natural musician and his talent was bestowed on all his children. Using home-made instruments they provided the music for dances at Park Court and Stanger. They would receive the princely sum of two dollars per night as "take home pay for all". The admission price for a dance was twenty-five cents, with lunch supplied by the ladies. Later on the Farmers' Community Club bought instruments for them, which they paid off by playing at dances.

After several periods of being employed in the coal mines on the Coal Branch and at Drumheller, Fred came back to farm with Louis. He built a new house on his own farm, which was near the home quarter.

In 1936 Louis married Lucy Nukovetz, and they took over the original farm, so the rest of the family moved in with Fred.



(Top) Fred Horz, (Middle Row) Rudolf Weist, Clara Horz, Rudolf Kleofas, (Front) Carl and Eugene Horz.



Fred Horz

That same summer tragedy struck the family when Carl was drowned in the Pembina River while swimming with his friends. Two other boys, - Hellmut Grapentin and Eddie Fausak died in the same mishap.

Louis Horz Sr. died in 1944. He is buried in the Park Court United Church Cemetery. Hermine lived for many years in Evansburg and passed away in 1968.

In 1939, Fred married Enid Teeple from Camrose. They continued to farm until October, 1944 after which he started a hardware store in Evansburg. This they operated for three years and then sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Lundrigan from Hines

Creek. Later that year, 1947, they moved to Mercoal, on the Coal Branch, where Fred worked as steam-hoistman in the power plant until 1950.

They then moved to Edmonton, where he went into the construction business. He built and renovated many houses in Beverly and other small towns. He built a house in Beverly for himself and Enid and their three children. He retired in 1971.

Fred passed away in 1978 and is buried in Edmonton.

Enid has remarried Ewald Gahr and still lives in her home in the Beverly district of Edmonton.

The History of Albert and Lucy Tuftin

by Albert Tuftin

I was born across the river from Park Court, at Stanger, Alberta in 1916. I am the second son born to my parents, Nels and Anna Tuftin, who were both born in Oslo, Norway. They migrated to Wisconsin, U.S.A., and later from there came to a homestead in the Stanger area in 1913.

My father was a cook, this work taking him from home to sawmills, threshing outfits and survey-crew camps. My mother was left at home to care for the children as well as tending to chores. She depended on me to look after the younger children and household duties, while she and my older brother George and my younger brother Herman cared for the cattle and horses.

I met my wife, Lucy Plante, in the winter of 1932. She had come from the Wetaskiwin area to make her home with her grandparents, Will and Lucy Cowan. They had come earlier from Wetaskiwin to a homestead at Stanger.

Lucy and I were married on April 8th, 1937 and lived in the Stanger district, where we were delighted to have three daughters born to us over the years we were there.

I did some farming on my own, then the chance

of renting more land came up, so we tried that. Then the offer of a carpenter job came along, the building of a few houses. Then another offer came to drive a truck for our local store-keeper. I did a lot of trucking of stock, grain and clover seed. I really knew Edmonton in those days. I also did mail hauling, store keeping, and post office work for our local store. I also hauled truck loads of all kinds of meats up to the Coal-Branch, where all those towns were in full operation in the forties. During all this, we had built a house and had an extra large room on it which we used for a cafe. Lucy operated that, and it kept her busy, as she had sixteen school children that came everyday for their dinner. A lot of people came to the store or garage. She sold most of the commodities you find in confectionaries.

Through a good friend of ours, Richard Greenwood, we heard there was a quarter section of land for sale in the Park Court area. It was river flats, and that sounded good to us, after farming in the rocky land of Stanger. It turned out that the land for sale was Rudolph Weist's place.

After a few times of seeing each other and talking business with Mr. and Mrs. Weist, we bought the land. We moved all our goods and chattels across the Pembina River on November 25th, 1950. There was a lot of snow that winter, and it came early. I had brought a load of lumber over to our "new home" by horses and sleigh on the eighth of November. It turned out to be thirty-two degrees below zero that day, and I got very cold.

After we had been over here for a year, we were blessed with another daughter born to us in 1951.

We have seen many changes in the districts in the more than thirty years we have been here, but naturally the earlier settlers have seen many more.

I recall the first summer we were here. Rather than taking the big wagon to town, I borrowed a buggy from our good neighbor, Louis Horz. It was in the spring, and the roads were very muddy. On our way home from town, we stopped in at Weists



(L—R) Albert Tuftin, Irene Ohl, Mrs. Tuftin Sr., Lucy Tuftin, and grandchildren, Debbie and Greg.

to pick up a pair of geese. We got as far as John Paulduro's west corner and the buggy wheels were getting bigger and bigger with mud. They finally picked up so much that those little wheels looked like the wheels of a steel wagon. We went only a few yards further, when one of the buggy wheels fell apart. There was only one thing left to do, so I unhitched the horses from the broken-down buggy and drove over to borrow a stone-boat from the Paulduros. Then I came back to pick up Lucy, the groceries and the geese. It took quite a while to get the rest of the way home because the horses were tired, and so were we! Since then our roads have certainly changed, but so has our mode of travel!

During the springs of 1951 and 1952, Edward Greenwood loaned me the use of one of his tractors. I asked what gear I should plough in. He told me third. I thought should I hit any rocks at that speed, I would certainly wreck the plough. I remember ploughing all day and never once heard the sound of a stone! It was hard to believe, as over on some of the land that I had farmed, especially on my dad's place, a set of plough shares were dull long before night. To this day, on my farm, I have only removed two very large stones and a handful of small ones.

The threshing was done with teams and racks. The machine was Horzs. Our girls would hurry



Albert Tuftin going for hay in 1950 on Park Court farm.



Albert Tuftin on baler, tying bales with wire.

home from school to get in on some of the threshing excitement, although stooking of the bundles didn't provide such thrills!

I got my first John Deere tractor in the fall of 1952 from south of Entwistle. I kept it for a few years and then bought a brand new Model Sixty John Deere. That certainly made farming much easier.

Our girls walked to the Park Court School through fields and sloughs, and in winter great drifts of snow, along with the Horz girls. Later the School Bus arrived to take the children to Evansburg. Most of us thought they were "putting the cart before the horse," because of the bad roads!

The United Church, in Park Court, was where we attended church. Our girls went to Sunday School, and our fourth daughter was christened in that same church. We were saddened when it was not used anymore.

In the late part of summer, in 1961, we were offered a job at the Senior Citizen's Lodge in Mayerthorpe, Lucy to be cook and I, the maintenance man. We were grateful for the chance, as we had had a couple of years of poor crops, and hail that wiped out everything. The hail also broke quite a few windows and made holes in granary roofs. We moved to Mayerthorpe in November and stayed until 1967, when we moved back. We had many offers from buyers for our farm, but we wouldn't sell. Our second daughter and her husband lived on our place most of the time we were away.

In the period of time we were away we bought another quarter of land, which corners our home place, from Delbert Farrell. On our days off from the Lodge, we would come out to the new quarter to do clearing, brushing and root picking. Later we had a caterpillar come to do a considerable amount of bulldozer work.

In the early fifties we bought a 1950 International half-ton truck, from Milt Yandt. It was a very good vehicle. We had a hard time paying for it but we did. Mr. Yandt was very patient and understanding.

One day, I sent Lucy to town for some gas and oil. She needed a few supplies as well, so she took our youngest girl along, who was three years old then. I knew the lights, brakes, oil, etc., were all in good order, so away they went! All was well till she came to the Lobstick Hill. She went to apply brakes and go into a lower gear, but to her horror, there were no brakes! She ordered Beverly to get down on the floor while she guided the truck and prayed there would be no one coming on to the bridge, at the bottom. How she managed she doesn't know, and I don't either!

In the later fifties, when we got the power and telephones into the area, it was like a dream, to be able to flick a switch for light, instead of filling the gas light, or coal-oil lamp. One always had to remember to put fuel and mantles and lamp globes on your grocery list.

Getting the telephone in was certainly a com-

munity effort, as each subscriber was responsible for getting out so many poles. Also there was ground to thaw in the winter before making the holes. But having the phones was worth the hard work involved.

We have never regretted our cold move to Park Court, where we have since made a comfortable living, and gained many friends and neighbors. We have good times at picnics, dances, and social gatherings.

Our oldest daughter, Carol, married a local boy Stanley Greenwood, who farms near us.

Our second daughter, Irene, also married a local boy Carl Ohl (now deceased) who was a mechanic and farmer. She and her family, also live near by.

Our third daughter, Joan, married Dan Hall a man from north of Sangudo, who is in the dairy business, and farming. They reside near Meadowview, Alberta.

Our youngest daughter, Beverly, married Ralph Poeter, from Mayerthorpe. He is a chef at the International Airport at Nisku, and they reside at Leduc, Alberta.

We are all together as often as we can be, summer or winter, as we all enjoy music and singing. I have played the accordion since I was a youngster, as music was our source of entertainment in my parent's home. My brothers and sisters are also musical. We played for dances in many surrounding districts over at Stanger. My first accordion cost me three dollars and ninety-five cents from the Eaton's catalogue!

I am happy to say that all four of our daughters are musical as well. Amongst them, with members of their families, they have formed two separate bands.

As for Lucy and myself, we are semi-retired, have life much easier and are enjoying our families. At the time of writing, we have sixteen grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Stanley Greenwood Family

by Stanley Greenwood

I, Stanley, youngest son of Gilbert and Norah Greenwood took my nine years of schooling in Park Court. In 1949 I went to Ontario and worked on a farm. I came back in the fall and went to work for the Department of Highways. Then I went to Sinclair Mills, B.C. where I was a tree faller for five years.

I came back to Park Court in the spring of 1954 and married Carol Tuftin, oldest daughter of Albert and Lucy Tuftin, in March of 1955.

Renting the family farm from my mother and later purchasing it, we started our career of farming.

We raised a family of six daughters and one son all taking their education in Evansburg.

At present we own the farm of my great grandfather, Mr. Caudle, my father's farm and my uncle Dick Dollman's original farm. We ran a mixed farm - milking cows and growing grain for twenty four years. We have now gone into beef cows and grain.

We now are grandparents of three grandsons and two granddaughters.



Stanley Greenwood family

The Carl Ohl Family

by Irene Ohl

Carl was born on the family homestead near Evansburg June 23, 1934 and was the eldest child born to Paul and Annie Ohl.

Carl married me, Irene Tuftin on November 22, 1957. To us three children were born, Gregory, Deborah and Sandra. Our first home was a 8 by 32 foot trailer we purchased and moved in to Evansburg, as Carl was employed at the garage there. He then went on to study at S.A.I.T. and N.A.I.T. and received his Journeyman Motor Mechanics license. He worked in this field of business for twenty three years, around Evansburg, Drayton Valley and Mayerthorpe.

In 1965 we bought and moved on Carl's folks place. This made us the third generation to live on the Ohl Farm.

Carl's love for music, as well as mine, led us to form a four piece country and western band. This band consisted of Carl, his brother Henry, and wife Mary, and myself. We were known as The Ohl Brothers Band. Later on our band changed a bit, as did the name, "The Ohl's Band". Carl and I still played, and our son Gregory and a friend Don Cox joined with us, to replace Henry and Mary. We had two albums made of our band. Many years were spent playing for dances of all sorts, and we really enjoyed playing for all of them.



Ohl Brothers Band - Henry Ohl, Carl Ohl, Irene Ohl and Greg Ohl.

Suddenly April 9, 1981, Carl became very ill. After a lengthy stay at the University Hospital in Edmonton, Carl passed away, August 13, 1981.

Our son Gregory and wife Holly have since moved out to live in our yard on the farm to make them the fourth generation to reside on the Ohl farm. Our daughter Deborah lives in Leduc, and Sandra is still at home here.

At the time of this writing I am employed at Mayerthorpe, and still living on the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Farrell

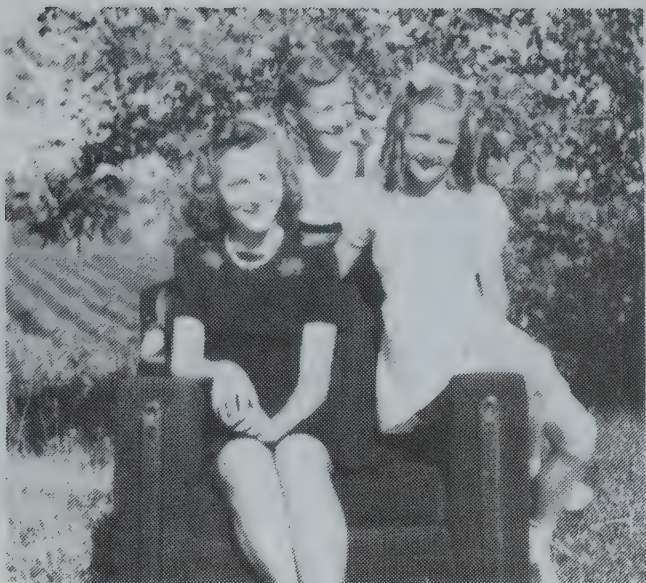
by Lill Farrell

The Farrells, Lillian and Delbert, with their three young daughters, arrived in Evansburg on October 25th, 1944; after having driven all the way from Dauphin, Manitoba in an old 1928 Chrysler car. They settled in the Park Court District on a farm purchased from Mr. Fred Horz. The log house had no telephone, running water or other modern conveniences. The roads had no signs or gravel and were a real problem in wet weather or deep snow.

In 1948, the Farrells moved to a farm one and one-half miles north of Evansburg, which was purchased from Mr. Tom Hutchinson. The girls grew up and the oldest, Shirley, married Robert Rauser. Patricia married Ray Dystant, and Debbie married Dan Burki. Shirley and Pat live at Campbell River, B.C. Debbie lives at Sangudo, Alberta. Lill and Delbert now have seven grandchildren and six great-



The Farrell family



Farrell girls, Shirley, Pat and Delberta.

grandchildren. The Farrells are now retired and have lived in Evansburg since 1972.

Grandma Min Blanchard

Grandma Min's grandparents, Joseph and Philomen Cowan and family of four, came to the Wetaskiwin area and took a homestead at Bittern Lake in 1890. In 1901 they moved to Wetaskiwin where they built a house and ran a bakery.

His oldest son, Joe Jr., had a livery stable in Wetaskiwin and later hauled mail in the west Wetaskiwin area. He also delivered groceries to stores along his route. In winter when the snow was too deep, he used dog teams.

William Cowan (Min's father) lived with his parents on S½-34-47-22-W4 until he married Lucy Huard in 1894.

Lucy and Willie stayed on the farm, then moved to Walla Walla, Washington, for a year and then came back to farm again. They had five children, Minnie in 1899, Romeo in 1901, Olive in 1907, Philomine in 1909 and David in 1912.

Minnie married George Plante in July 1919. They had four children: Lucy, Henry, Marguerite and Rose. Rose was only one month old and Lucy six years when George died. Min received forty dollars per month in Mothers Allowance.

She sold her cattle, horses and grain, to buy an acreage where the neighbors held a building bee and built her a house. With her parents' help, she was able to build other farm buildings.

Shortly thereafter she married William Blanchard and after a few years the family moved to south of Sangudo. They had three girls, Blanche, Yvonne and Donna. They spent some time in B.C. working in the vegetable and fruit industries.

Grandma Min then went to work cooking in logging, construction and mining camps. It was hard work, from 5 A.M. until 10:30 P.M. but she enjoyed it. In 1957 she came back to the Stanger/Park Court areas, where she has lived ever since. For a few years she had a trailer in Tuftin's yard. For the last couple of years she has been a resident at Sunshine Lodge in Evansburg.

Her daughter Lucy married Albert Tuftin in 1936. They had four daughters, Carol, Irene, Joan and Beverly.

Her son, Henry Plante, married Trudy Bronson while he was stationed in Holland during World War II. She had two daughters, Joanne and Cynthia. Then they had four more, Harry, George, Sharon and Teryl. They are all married and live around Lake Isle.

Marguerite married Allen Moore in 1941. They had six children; Gloria, May, Henry, Elaine, Roger and Brenda.

Rose married Clayton Ross from Ryley and they live in Tofield. They have three children, Kenneth, Delores and Karen.

Blanche was married to Norman Powell of Ontario. They have four children, Daniel, Noreen, Wilfred and Henry and live at Tete Jaune, B.C.

Yvonne was married to Clifford Felt. They have two sons Richard and Kim, and live at Abbotsford, B.C.

Donna was married to Eric Janum and had four

children, Susan, Alice, Sandy and Tina. Donna was divorced and has remarried John McNaughton. They live at Dawson Creek, B.C.

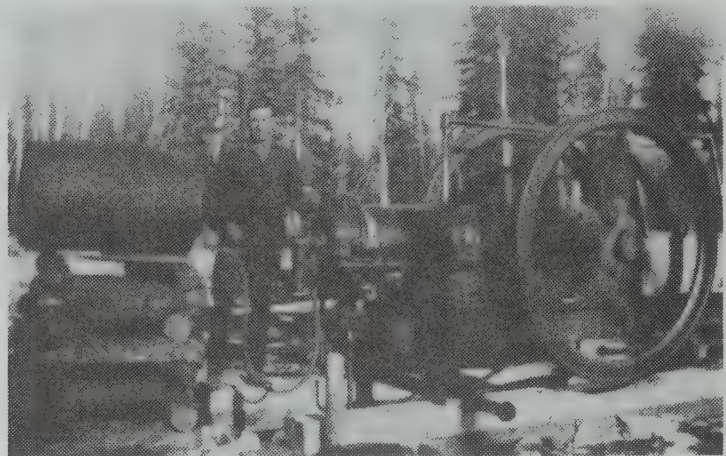
Grandma Min, as she is affectionately known to most people in Park Court and Stanger, is a most remarkable person. At eighty three she still drives her car, and is especially spry and active in many activities. Until just a year or so ago, she would pick up her sister at Wetaskiwin and the two of them made trips all over B.C. and Alberta in Min's car. She still is away visiting at every opportunity - would we could all do so well!



Fall Fair in Entwistle, 1910. First prize team of oxen - S. T. Dollman driving with G. E. Greenwood and D. E. Caudle.



Park Court School children in 1947.



Eric Proehl with stationary engine used in sawmill, 1929.



Sunday afternoon gathering at the Harke home.



Gilbert Greenwood with wolf he shot.



Group at Park Court corner store - about 1940.



Picnic at Youngs about 1935

Crabby Old Woman

Feeling older? Please don't let that depress you because if we all accepted the fact of old age, then we could re-write the sadness in this poem discovered in the belongings of a nameless woman who died in a geriatrics ward in Scotland.

*What do you see nurses?
What do you see?
Are you thinking when your looking at me
A crabby old woman, not very wise
Who dribbles her food
And makes no reply when you say in a loud voice
"I do wish you'd try"
Is that what you're thinking?
Is that what you see?
Then open your eyes nurse
You're not looking at me*

*I'll tell you who I am
As I sit here so still
As I rise at your bidding, As I eat at your will
I'm a small child of ten with a father and mother
A young girl of sixteen with wings on her feet
dreaming that soon now a lover she'll meet
A bride soon at twenty
My heart gives a leap remembering those vows
that I promised to keep
At twenty-five I have young of my own
Wo need me to build a secure happy home
At fifty, once more babies play around my knee
Again we know children - My loved one and me*

*Dark days are upon me
My husband is dead
I look at the future,
I shudder with dread
I'm an old woman now
And nature is cruel
'Tis her jest to make old age look like a fool
But inside this old carcass, a young girl still dwells*

*I remember the joy
I remember the pain
And I'm loving and living life over again
I think of the years, all too few-gone too fast
And accept the fact that nothing can last*

*So open your eyes nurses
Open and see
Not a crabby old woman, look closer
See me.*

We could all do a better job of looking and seeing, if we just put the emphasis on people, instead of old.

Not To Be Forgotten

The following is a list of former residents for whom, for various reasons, we have been unable to obtain a family history. Some may have been missed and for this we apologize.

The Committee

A. J. Andrews

A. J. Andrews homesteaded in Park Court in 1918.

Louis Bruch

Louis Bruch and his family lived on SE 27-54-7-W5. They came in 1911 and stayed for about five years. A daughter was born while they lived in Park Court. In later years they moved to New York.

Bonkos

Mr. Bonko lived on SE 31-54-7-W5 in the late 1930s. He built a complete set of log buildings. A son, Paul, lived on SW-3-55-W5 for several years.

William Caley

William Caley homesteaded in Park Court in 1910. He married one of the Bigland girls.

R. E. Carpenter

Mr. Carpenter, with his wife and daughter Annie lived on SE 55-7-W5 in 1925. They later moved to Entwistle.

Colin Dyble

Colin Dyble homesteaded in Park Court in 1911.

Mr. and Mrs. Geoffroy

The Geoffroys lived on Pt. N.W.-36-54-7-W5. The family consisted of seven boys. Mr. Geoffroy worked at the mine, walking back and forth. He carried a sack of flour out on his back every few days - just as the previous sack was used up. Their meat supply consisted of rabbits and partridges.

James Gair

James Gair homesteaded near Mr. Lang in 1923.

John Grisold

John Grisold homesteaded in north Park Court in 1929. When he left Park Court he went back to England.

R. Horschen

R. Horschen farmed the SE 26-54-7-W5. He sold his farm to the Proehls in 1913.

Fred Horn

Fred Horn homesteaded SW 5-55-7-W5 in 1915. This corner was known as Horn's Corner for many years.

Lloyd Hartman

Lloyd Hartman, with his wife and three children, came from St. Albert to homestead land now owned by Aleck Kasianiuk. While in Collynie they had eight more children. He farmed until 1947, when he died of a heart attack. His wife and family moved to Rochfort Bridge.

Horobenko

Mr. Horobenko came shortly after the war. He lived on SW 32-54-7-W5. He was a carpenter. Later a nephew and his mother came to live in the Collynie district.

Holonko

The Holonko family came in about 1937. They lived on the NW 34-54-7-W5. Mrs. Holonko died within a year or so of their arrival. The children went to Park Court School.

R. Kasting

The Kastings homesteaded near the river in south Park Court. Theirs was often the first place newcomers arrived at after crossing the river. They later moved back to Edmonton.

Ernest Karrer

Ernest Karrer homesteaded NE 20-54-7-W5 in 1912. He married one of the Morgan girls from north of Imrie. He sold his land to Abel Bjornstad in 1917.

Horace Knight

Horace Knight homesteaded in Park Court in 1910. He married one of the Bigland girls. He also had the post office for a short while before turning it over to Biglands.

Alfred Lang

Alfred Lang homesteaded in north Park Court in 1916.

Carl J. Lembke

Carl J. Lembke in 1910 homesteaded one of the quarters now owned by Robert Greenwood. He had the first Park Court post office.

Shragg and Magee

Mr. Shragg and Mr. Magee (brothers-in-law) homesteaded near the Pembina River in 1921.

Albert Oldham

Albert Oldham was a veteran of World War I and served as a recruiting officer in World War II. The Oldhams lived on a quarter near the river. Mrs. Oldham had two children - Grace and Alec Cowie. They moved away in the early 1930s.

Sam Sandulak

Sam Sandulak was a bachelor and homesteaded in Park Court in 1914.

John Sholders

John Sholders homesteaded in Park Court in 1913.

Carl Shutz

Carl Shutz homesteaded in Park Court in 1911.

Alex Sangster

Alex Sangster homesteaded in south Park Court.

William J. J. Smith

William J. J. Smith, with his wife and daughter Grace lived on NE 27-54-7-W5. Mrs. Smith was a midwife and helped bring in most of the babies in Park Court at that time. They later moved to Evansburg and lived near the cemetery.

Seredas

Seredas came in about 1939. They lived on SE 19-54-7-W5. They had four boys, Nick, Walter, Sam and John. Mrs. Sereda was killed when she was gored by a bull and Mr. Sereda died in an accident a few years later. The family left the district in about 1967.

Walter Thompson

The Walter Thompsons homesteaded SE 4-55-7-W5 in 1915.

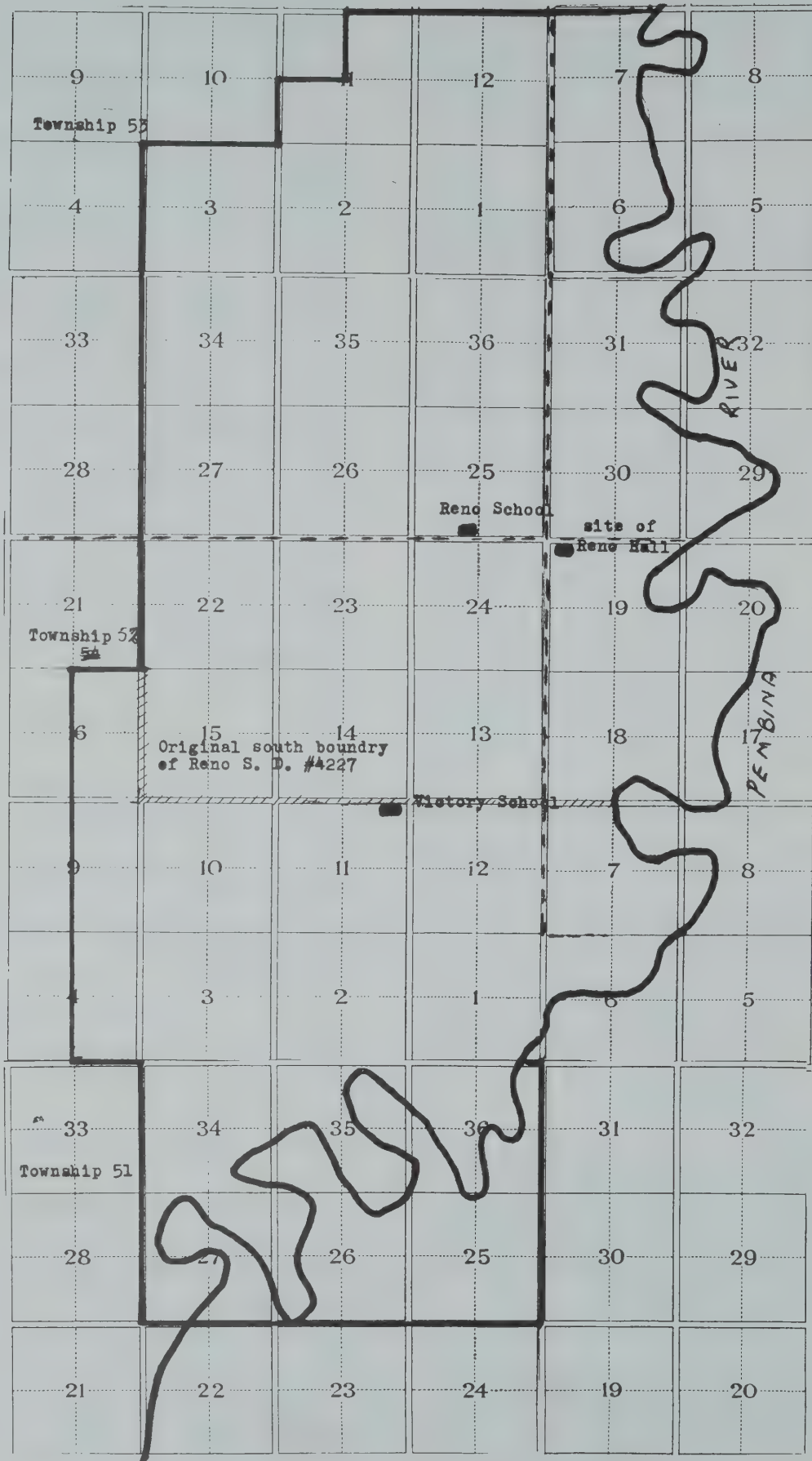
Warinkiw

The Warinkis homesteaded in the Collynie district in the 1930s. One daughter married Mike Hotra Sr. Two boys, Pete and Steve, were in the district for some time.

RENO—VICTORY

Range 8 West of 5th Meridian

Range 7 West of 5th Meridian



Reno - Victory Map



Group at McLaughlin's in Reno District about 1925
 (L—R) Bentley Fullerton, Archie Robillard, Mildred McLaughlin, Wyman Fullerton, Fred Lee, Doug Profitt (with dog), Lorne Palmer, Mrs. Palmer (with Bob in arms), Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin, Mrs. Charlie Copeland, Charlie Copeland, (Seated) Mrs. Elvira Copeland (Charles' mother) Frances Palmer at left of Mrs. Copeland.

Reno District

by Edna Hadley

The first homesteaders came into the Reno District in 1910. At this time Hank Hermanrude was working for Dominion Survey and needing a place to keep his horses, so he filed on a homestead south of Evansburg, the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 30-52-7-W5th M. A few more men came into the area in the years 1910 to 1914. Some men were working for the Pembina Peerless Coal Company or working on construction and filed on a homestead to have a home. Guy Lamoureux and Jack Lee were among these settlers. Further south and west, Ed Kimball and his wife Lillian had come with their family of two in 1911. Also among the 1913 and 1914 homesteaders were Bert Harmon, Emile Johnson and E. R. 'Dad' Neighbor. Mr. and Mrs. Neighbor had come from Oregon with a family of eight children ranging in age from one year to eighteen years.

The route to the district was by way of Entwistle and south to the Pembina River, where they crossed on a raft. To reach their homestead, the N.E. Sec. 14-52-8-W5th M., the family walked, spending the

nights with settlers along the way. The hospitality and compassion shown was terrific, giving food and shelter to ten extra people for the night, and considering the fact that settlers had barely enough for themselves.

Following the end of the war in 1918, many more settlers came into the area. As exists in any district, the people represented a variety of vocations, trappers, carpenters, miners, musicians and skilled tradesmen, all an asset to the community.

The land was heavily timbered and due to the late spring frosts and early autumn frosts, gardening was mostly an unsuccessful venture. However wild game could be shot when needed and wild fruit grew in abundance in season, especially bog cranberries, raspberries and blueberries. A timbered homestead could not support a family, so the men found work elsewhere. With heavy timber available, many sawmills operated. Some of the operators were Guy Lamoureux, Lorne Palmer and Doug Profitt, and W. McLaughlin. These mills gave local men employment, by cutting logs in the winter months and skidding them to the mill. In summer months the logs were cut into timber and planed at



Hank Hermanrude in centre - cutting telephone poles - 1910.



Dad Neighbor and his car.

the mill site. This also enabled homesteaders to get lumber for their own use. Some road work gave them employment. They were sometimes given the opportunity of road work to defray their taxes, or work for the sum of twenty-five cents an hour.

The first School District was formed in 1926 and a school built and opened in 1927. The name chosen for the School District was adopted by the community, namely Reno District. The first chairman of the School Board was E.R. 'Dad' Neighbor, and Guy Lamoureux was the first Secretary-Treasurer, a position he held for many years.

In the fall of 1930 a fire swept through the Reno District burning the school. A new Reno School was built in 1931 on a site nearby the original log school. In 1939 the Victory School District was formed and Victory School opened to accommodate the children in the south and west area of the district.

In 1930 the Reno District Society was formed and a community hall was built. The Reno hall opened

in 1931, a community hall built by community effort. The hall provided much entertainment for the settlers by way of socials, dances, programs, plays and picnics. Mrs. Maguire led and conducted the Sunday School in the hall. The young people had their ball teams; and in the 1930s a strong Social Credit group functioned under the leadership of Vern Douglas.

As the land became cleared, the risk of frost in the growing season lessened and gardens could be grown with more success. In the early 1930s Adam Maguire and his family experimented successfully with an orchard of small fruit trees. Development of the country was aided by the discovery of oil in 1949 and some development in the 1950s. This was followed later by the opening of a larger oil field in the south and west part of the area. Service roads were built and well maintained, making for better transportation for the farmers. Large areas of good farming land have been developed. Schools closed in the 1950s and children were bussed to Evansburg. Also in the 1950s rural power lines ran through the area.

The original settlers of the Reno District have passed on, but some of their families reside in nearby areas, Bill Hermanrude and Annabel (Kimball) Taylor from whom much of this information has been gleaned.

Reno Hall

by Edna Hadley with assistance from Bill Hermanrude and Annabell Taylor

The Reno District Society was incorporated in 1930 under the Societies Act of Alberta, with the objective of building a hall for the use of the community. The first executive elected was E. R. "Dad" Neighbor as President, Hank Hermanrude as Secretary, and Mrs. Sadie Cavanagh as Treasurer, although there was rarely any cash in the Treasury. In the building of the Reno Hall, community spirit was displayed with members contributing in their own special way. Membership fee was fifty cents per person.

For the lumber, members obtained permits from



Reno Hall - 1932.



Bill Baptie's Barn - 1929 used for dances prior to building of Reno Hall.

the Provincial Government to cut logs in the area. Guy Lamoureux, a mill owner in the district sawed and planed the lumber free of charge. Hank Hermanrude donated a corner of land on his quarter N. W. 19-52-8-5 for the building site. Bill Clack, a homesteading veteran of the 1920s and unable to work, donated enough timber to pay for the nails, shingles and tarpaper. Dave Cavanagh was the head carpenter and W. L. Baptie, also a homesteader of the 1920s, did the window and door fittings. Mr. Baptie homesteaded the present Paul Yakimchuk farm and was an experienced carpenter. He built the stage in the hall which in itself was a masterpiece complete with wings, front, side and back entries and exits, and a passageway across the back, very convenient for concerts and plays.

The Reno Hall opened in 1931. It was heated by wood burning air tight heaters; coffee for lunch time was made in a copper wash boiler purchased specifically for this purpose. Mrs. Annie Hermanrude was the caretaker for many years, possibly

earning her admission to any coming event. Dances here were very popular in both the winter and summer months. Admission to the dances varied. Wedding dances held to honor newly married couples were "free" but later a collection was taken to aid the couple in their new home. Regular admission was twenty-five cents, with ladies bringing lunch admitted free of charge.

Music was supplied by local talent. Bennie Berkowski, who lived on the base line and was also a homesteader of the 1920s, had been a concert violinist in Poland. He, with Mrs Garford as his organist, donated time and music for the community's dances. Others contributing music were Charley Copeland, Henry Dewald and Mrs. Maggie Douglas. Pick-up music was often necessary, that is anyone present who could play an instrument was invited to participate. It was said of one group that they played the same tune at all times, varying the speed to suit the dance, slowly if it were a waltz and much faster if it were a square dance. Other popular events were the annual Christmas Concert, and for a few years a Theatre Group operated under the leadership of John Tudge producing many enjoyable plays. Picnics and ball games were held on the grounds in the summer months. Sunday School was held weekly under the guidance of Mrs. Adam Maguire. In the 1930s a strong Social Credit Group was active and many political meetings were held in the Reno Hall.

The Reno Hall was built on pillars, so as time passed, the building shifted and the floor buckled. It was condemned for use in 1950 and stood as a symbol of good times passed until 1962. At this time Mike Docknick, a farmer on the original Maguire homestead purchased the building for \$270.00. He dismantled it and in so doing discovered that it had 3 ply of lumber. He moved the lumber to his farm where he built a pig barn, a garage and three granaries, with lumber left for more building.

When the Reno Hall was in operation in the 1930s and 1940s whole families came to events held there. They would travel in sleighs in the winter months and in wagons in the summer months.



Sunday School at Reno Hall, 1936, with leader Mrs. Maguire at front right.

Some came on horseback and some walked. The odd one came with a crock of moonshine roped to his back so that it would not be lost in the muskeg or broken by a fall over a root. Horses were tied to the hitching rack or to Mr. Hermanrude's fence and here were fed grain and hay. Today the only vestiges remaining at the hall site are the wild oats and other weeds scattered by the wind from the feeding racks. Time has not eradicated the weeds nor the memories of good times held in the Reno Hall.

Reno School

Compiled from Interviews by Edna Hadley

The history of the Reno School comes from Mrs. Maude Poulsen, formerly Maude Hermanrude and one of the first students to attend the Reno School. A meeting was held in the fall of 1926 to determine the site for the proposed school and to choose a name for the school district. Several names were submitted and 'Reno', which was suggested by Mrs. Bertha Blair, was the name accepted. The school was constructed by the local residents. It was made of squared logs, hand-hewn. The chief carpenters were Claude and Dave Cavanagh. Reno School opened at Easter time in 1927 with eleven students registered.

Miss Eleanor Magee was the first teacher, a tiny girl who was quite apprehensive when she saw her students approaching the school. Many of them were taller than she was, and the bigger boys carried



First Reno School 1927 destroyed by forest fire in 1930.



Reno School Students 1927

(Back Row) L—R Warren Kimball, Smokey Neighbor, Alice Neighbor, Vic Neighbor, Annabell Kimball (Front Row) L—R Donald Cavanagh, Julia Kimball, Roger Kimball, Buck Lamoureux

rifles. Being ever on the alert for game, the boys hunted on the way to and from school. However, on arriving they emptied the magazines and hung the rifles on the wall, thus allaying her fears. At noon hour they built a camp fire in the yard to boil their tea can.

This log building was burned with a brush fire in 1930 and a new school was built in 1932. In the meantime school was held in Joe Pilgrim's house with sixteen pupils. Dave Cavanagh was the carpenter in the building of the new school, a frame struc-



Reno School in 1932.

ture. Some of the early students in Reno School were: Vic, Smoky and Alice Neighbour, Bill, Helen and Maude Hermanrude, Warren, Stella, Annabell, Julia and Roger Kimball, Buck Lamoureux and Don Cavanagh. Guy Lamoureux held the position of Secretary-Treasurer for many years. Many of the teachers found a home with Mrs. Sadie Cavanagh.

Classes continued in Reno School until about 1951, at which time students were bussed to Evansburg. The first bus driver was Justus Otto, followed by Alex Foster, Bruce McKinnon, Max Herzog, George Court, Mike Lemishka and Carl Bauer.

Teachers who taught in Reno School were: Eleanor Magee, Phyllis Magee, Helen Pisces, Eva McLennan, Angela Long, Edna Hutchinson, Janet Young, Gerda Konigson and Bill Janewski. For a few years there were supervisors of correspondence classes. A few of them were Jenny Janewski, Bernice Hadley and Betty Rauser.

Reno School, following the way of all abandoned buildings, is falling into a state of ruin.

A New Teacher for a Pioneer School

by Eleanor M. Keen

Imagine the excitement after waiting for eight months for an answer to one of my numerous applications, to receive a letter from a school district accepting my application - but there was a catch. The Reno School Board had sent letters to three hopeful young teachers stating that the first one to telephone the Post Office at Entwistle would be hired. We had a rural phone at that time but I was

working in Camrose, Alberta so my dad brought the letter to me from the farm. This was on a Friday, April 8, 1927. Dad rushed me down to the telephone office and I put the call through to Entwistle. I learned that I was to be on the Sunday train out of Edmonton, ready to start school on the Monday morning, April 11. I said I would be there. Dad helped me to buy a new trunk and I went home to pack. What a flurry, with everyone in the family almost as excited as I was.

After the train left Edmonton I sat quietly in my corner watching the passing countryside. However there was one tall young man with a ten gallon hat and cowboy boots that took my eye, (I had read many Zane Grey books and Chip of the Flying U etc.) but this was my first sight of a real live cowboy. I left the train at Entwistle and he went on to Evansburg. What was my surprise when I met them a few days later at Dad Neighbors. It was Tom Coggins and Tet Neighbor returning from their honeymoon. I received some teasing after because I had not noticed Tet. They had spotted me however.

When I landed on the station platform at Ent-



Eleanor Magee - first teacher at Reno School in 1927.

wistle, about a mile from the main village, there was no one there to meet me. Soon a man came walking across from one of the houses and introduced himself as Mr. Magee. He had come to tell me that Jack Lee would be along in a little while and I was to come over to the house for a cup of tea. I met Mrs. Magee and as my name was Magee we had a pleasant visit but were unable to establish a relationship. Jack Lee arrived shortly in a wagon, my trunk was loaded and we headed for Reno, a distance of ten or twelve miles. We crossed the Pembina River on the ice. I was told afterwards that it was a dangerous thing to do at that time of the year but Jack Lee was always the last to keep from using the crossing.

We stopped at Lees long enough for Jack to hitch the team to a sleigh as there was still plenty of snow in the bush. The drive to Cavanaghs where I was to board was another two or three miles through heavy brush and I began to wonder if we were ever going to get there. It had been a long day, all strange to me. It was growing dark by this time. It was a welcome sight to see a light twinkling through the trees and smell the homey odor of wood smoke. I still love a wood fire and the smell of the smoke in the cold air. Mrs. Cavanagh had supper ready for us and then I was glad to be shown to my room and to crawl into bed.

The next morning we were up early and Dave Cavanagh hitched up his team to take his son Donald and myself to the school. Here again I had a surprise waiting for me. Instead of a little white school house such as I was used to, the building was made of squared logs with about fifteen desks of various sizes, a teacher's desk, a bell but no books such as readers etc. I really don't remember too much of that first day. There were eleven pupils representing five families. Hank Hermanrude came with William and Helen. He was a Norwegian and said, "Vall, I don't know vatt you are going to do vitt these two little bush rabbits but here dey are."

I went back to Cavanaghs after school that day and the reaction from all the excitement caught up with me. A wave of home sickness engulfed me. I decided that I could not stay and wanted to go



Cavanagh Cottage under construction early 1920's

home. Sadie Cavanagh sent Donald over to Neighbors, about a quarter of a mile away, and Dad Neighbor came over to talk to me. He said that they had worked so hard to build the school with volunteer help and all the kids were anxious to start. He also said that the kids all thought that I was the best teacher they had ever had. This of course made me laugh because only one had been to school before. They gave me the day to rest and I decided to stay. I went back for a second term, enjoying every bit of it. Thus Dad Neighbor, a grand old character, influenced the trend of my life.

As I mentioned, the school was newly built and the chinking was not done. There was a big bag of oakum in the corner with hammer and chisels handy. At recess the older pupils went ahead with the job and we pretended we were Cartier or Champlain building a fort to protect ourselves from the Indians. Thus we learned some of our history lessons. The older boys often carried their high powered rifles to school in case they ran across a moose or deer coming through the bush. The rifles were just left standing in the corner at the front of the room. Nothing was ever said about this but I shudder to think of what would have happened if the School Inspector had come along. As for the children, this was just a part of their everyday life.

So many fond memories come to mind and I can truthfully say I'm glad Dad Neighbor was around to keep me from leaving before I got to know all those good people.

As a point of interest - I was paid a salary of nine hundred and fifty dollars a year, or ninety-five dollars a month for ten months. From this I paid twenty five dollars a month for board and room. Today many teachers are paid ninety-five dollars for a day.

Victory School

Compiled from Interviews by Edna Hadley

Victory School opened in November of 1939 and operated until 1952. Although it was about one and one-half miles from Reno School, it was built to accommodate the many homesteaders who had settled in the South Reno area. The name Victory was chosen because it was the year of the outbreak of World War II and the residents were positive that the allies would be victorious.

Dave Cavanagh was the head carpenter assisted by Sam Myszkuk and other men of the district. Trails were cut through the bush to give the children access to the school. School opened in 1939 with about twenty-two pupils. Miss Johnson was the first teacher. She boarded with Mrs. Cavanagh as did many of the Victory and Reno teachers.

Arthur Davey was the secretary and they had no treasurer. As Mrs. Davey explained it, 'they had no need for a treasurer as they had no funds.' Teachers were paid as the Government Grants were paid to the school board.

Miss Kippan followed Miss Johnson as teacher. She held one of the first Christmas programs in the district. This was always one of the highlights of entertainment to the people of the area. In 1940 Miss Kippan and Miss Gerda Konigson of Reno District held a joint school picnic at the end of the school year. This was also one of the highlights of entertainment for the people of the rural areas. It was time for visiting and relaxation from the toils of homesteading. Other teachers in the Victory school were: Harry Kuharchuk, Bill Janewski and Helen Blair; and some of the supervisors of Correspondence lessons were: Ethel McCrae, Jean Smith and Mary Pajak. Victory School ceased to operate after 1952 and was moved to the Evansburg School site where it served as a Home Economics room.



Victory School Students 1950

(Back Row) L—R Fred Prylowski, Rita Jensen, Skip Schaning, Edna Prylowski, Peter Kazlauskas (3rd row) L—R Dorothy Horst, Sophie Dorn, Doreen Horst, Esky Schaning, Pauline Kazlauskas, (2nd Row) L—R Clifford Horst, Winston Prylowski, Bobby Jensen (Front Row) L—R Cecil Horst, Edie Kazlauskas

Recollections of Teaching Days in Reno and Victory Schools

by William Janewski

I assumed teaching duties at the Reno School in May, 1950. I remained there until the fall and then was requested to move to the Victory School. A bus service was arranged for the Reno students to be taken to Evansburg, but because of poor roads and poor accessibility, no bus service was possible for the Victory students.

I boarded at Freda and Nat Kimball's until a teacherage was provided on the Jim Kazlauskas farm. My teacherage was a converted granary but, like the pioneers, you learned to cope with conditions. I recall eating bear meat for the first time at Kimball's home; playing for dances and parties with Dave Copeland and George Lee; fishing in the Pembina River and boating down the river from Lodgepole to Reno in an eight-foot ship-lap boat that Nat Kimball had constructed during the winter months.

Just before Easter in 1951 a rare snowstorm with wind blocked the roads. The next day was clear and cold, but Mr. Hermanrude came by on snowshoes to make sure no one was in trouble.

Transportation was limited at that time and cars were the exception. I made many walks to Tudges to play Hearts; to Kimballs to play Crib; and to George Lees for some good music.

I remember most of the students of that day and place. Some I have met since. I have been kept up to date about the others through mutual friends. The people in the area were resourceful and friendly. I made many friendships that have continued to this day and hopefully will continue through future years.



Reno School Students 1933

Back Row (L—R) Walter Paskaluk, Bill Hermanrude, Leo Miko, Roger Kimball, Buck Lamoureux, Edwin Copeland, Stan Angerman, **(Second Row)** L—R Ward Lamoureux, Marie Angerman, Olaf Hermanrude, Donald Douglas, Walter Jwaszko, Tony Z, **(Third Row)** L—R Dorothy Angerman, Maude Hermanrude, Dolly Douglas, Tillie Regoto, Helen Hermanrude, Wilf Lamoureux, Sophie Jwaszko, **(Front Row)** L—R Helen Jazek, Helen Borys, Sophie Yowek, Isobel Hermanrude.



Reno Young people at the ball field near the school 1936.



Reno School Grade IX class 1943.

(L—R) Sophie Yowek, Beth Lamoureux, Walter Jwaszko, Olaf Hermanrude.



Reno and Victory students 1946-1947

Among the group are: Mike, Tessie, Yorosh and Walter Antkow, Shirley, Garry and Ivan McCracken, Holly Slusarenko, Josey Yowek, Adam, Steve and Mary Bratchuk, Marlene and Doris Fetzer.

Henry and Annie Hermanrude

by Maude Poulsen and Isobel Hermanrude

Henry Hermanrude, commonly known as 'Hank' came to Canada from Norway in 1903 at the age of twenty. After working around Edmonton, he acquired a horse and saddle and travelled from Edmonton to the Evansburg area on horseback via a pack trail winding through the bush on all the heights of land. In 1908 and 1909 he worked on the construction of the Grand Trunk railway bridge between Entwistle and Evansburg. In 1910 and 1911 he worked for the Dominion Survey, surveying the sections and quarter-sections in this part of Alberta. This entailed riding through the bush with a pack of stakes strapped to his saddle. He had to have a place to keep his horses, so he filed on a homestead South of Evansburg (S.W. 30-52-7-W5th) in what later would be the Reno area.

Hank built a two-room log cabin of hand-hewn logs and started a trap line. Trapping became his life-long occupation. Some farming and saw mill work also fitted into his way of life.

In 1915, Hank enlisted in the Army with the 194th Regiment. He went overseas and served until the end of the war and was a participant in the battle of Vimy Ridge. While he was stationed in England he met Annie Elizabeth Turner and they were married on January twenty-second in 1918.

Annie was an English nanny and midwife. On November first, ten days before the Armistice was signed, their first son, William Henry, was born. In April of 1919 the family of three came to Canada by boat and to Hank's homestead. What a change for Annie! From an English city to the wilds of Canada. The winter of 1919 set records for cold temperatures and deep snow and she was often left for weeks at a time while Hank was on the trapline.

During the next six years, four more children were born to the Hermanrudes, and all of them in the trapper's cabin. Hank never did have fast horses but he always did manage to go for a neighbour to stay with Annie while he drove the seven miles to



Hank Hermanrude off to the trap-line with pack-dog Crusoe - 1940.



Off to school with lard pail dinner buckets. Hermanrude girls with Olaf.



Hank Hermanrude with furs taken up the Pembina in 1911.

Evansburg for Dr. Elliott. He always got the doctor there in time, even though the roads were mere trails. Their first daughter, Helen Frances, was born February 10, 1920. She was the first girl to be born in this area. Karen Maude was born September 5, 1921 and was followed by Isobel on January 15, 1924. On December 18, 1925, Olaf Robert came along, completing the family.

The Reno School was opened in the spring of 1927 and Billy and Helen were among the first pupils to attend. Miss Eleanor Magee was the first teacher and some of the beginners were bigger than she was.

Hank Hermanrude served on the School Board and on the Municipal Council. He donated land for the Reno Hall which was built in 1930 and which was the centre for community affairs for many years.

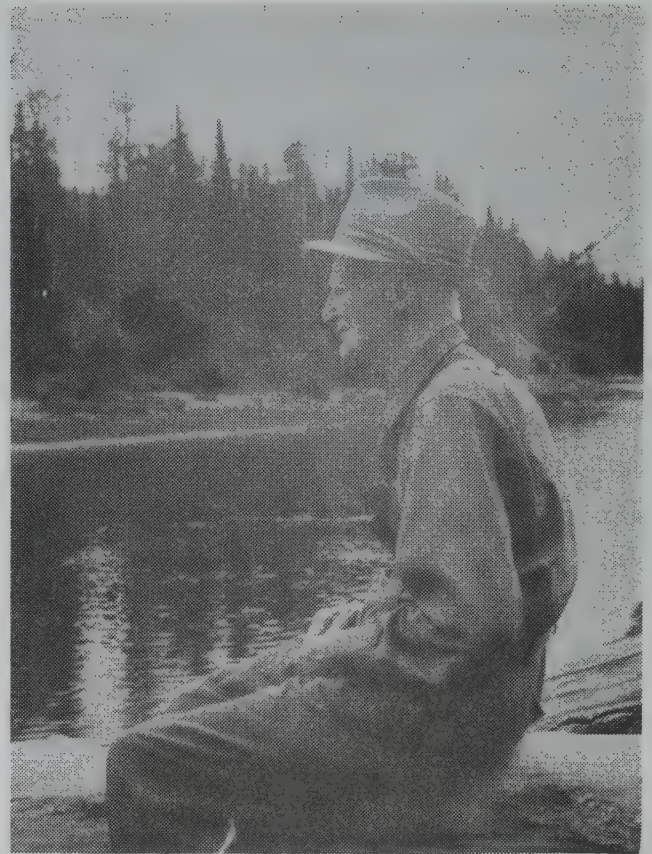
Life wasn't easy back then but laughter came easily. Happiness was new lambs in the spring, the swimming hole in the summer and a hill to slide on in the winter.

The Hermanrudes retired to Evansburg in 1952. Hank passed away in 1966 and Annie in 1976. They are buried in the Evansburg cemetery.

Bill Hermanrude enlisted in 1940 and served five years overseas in the United Kingdom and in North-west Europe. He married Anne Stumbo of Wildwood and they have two sons. Their oldest son, Harold, is now in the Armed Forces. Bill still works the trapline that was his father's, and he farms in the Reno area, although they live in Evansburg, where Bill is active in all Legion activities.

Helen married George Taggart of the north Styal area. He was a sawyer so they have spent their lives in and around sawmills in Alberta and B.C. They have four children and are now living in retirement in Wynndel, B.C. Karen Maude married Al Poulsen, a rancher in the southern Alberta community of Cowley. They have one son.

Isobel married John Yowek of the Reno District.



Hank Hermanrude, 1964.

They moved to Edmonton and had three children, two girls and one boy. They were divorced, and after bringing up her children, Isobel resumed her maiden name and retired in Edmonton in 1981 after serving twenty-three years as drapery seamstress with the Hudson Bay Company.

Olaf served in the Royal Canadian Navy during World War II. He married Alice Espedviet of Bonnyville. He served as Park Warden in both Alberta and British Columbia, and is now retired in Salmon Arm, B.C. They have two daughters and two sons.

The Lamoureux Family

by Marjorie Lamoureux

In 1910, Theophile and Malvina Lamoureux and family of four decided to leave their native land of Granby, Quebec and migrate to Alberta. They decided that the land around Entwistle, close to the Pembina River, would be the place they would settle. With them came three sons and one daughter - Guy, Emile, Louis and Blanche - and a good friend known in Entwistle as "Leduc". At the same time, Francis Lamoureux, known to everyone as "The Professor", decided to make his home in Alberta.



First home of Guy Lamoureux



Guy Lamoureux's improved house, 1926.

Francis could speak many languages, thus the name of "Professor". This was a great asset as there were quite a few people who did not speak English.

When they arrived in May, 1910, they lived in tents until a log home could be built. While living in their "tent homes" they were hit by a snow storm in the month of June, but they managed to save their gardens.

Each of the boys filed claims for their own land in what is now known as Brightwood.

In 1915, Blanche married Dan Harrington. They had three children, Ted, Eileen and Frances. They homesteaded in the area until 1928 and then moved to Detroit, Michigan.

Guy married Kate Neighbour, daughter of Ray "Dad" Neighbour, who was one of the first pioneers in the Reno district. They had five children; Stanley, Beth, Wilfred, Ward and Stephen, who died when a baby. All three boys served in the armed forces. After years of farming, Guy moved to Evansburg to start his own planer mill while Kate and family managed the farm. Louis farmed his land until just a couple of years before he passed away in 1979. Guy lived in Evansburg until his death in 1966.

Emile drowned in the Pembina River in 1918. Blanche passed away in Detroit in 1980.

Many hardships befell this family but they always came back. Good times were also to be had with picnics, dances in homes, and just plain helping each other. Part of the homestead of Theophile and Malvina can still be seen on the Pembina River on the land of the Johnsens south of Entwistle where Louis lived for many years. Our families are proud to be descendents of such pioneers.

Edwin and Lillian Kimball

by Annabell Taylor

Edwin Parker Kimball and Lillian Bell Howard were married in Lyman County, South Dakota in 1908. Their honeymoon was a trek through the badlands with a covered wagon and livestock to Mead County. In 1910, lured by the "Last Best West" literature, Ed moved to Alberta with a box-car of settlers' effects at a fare of one cent per mile. He took up three quarter-sections, a homestead and South African Scrip, on the Pembina River where the Woods Ranch now stands. The Canadian Northern Railway had survey stakes along the property, supposedly going to Rocky Mountain House. Later, the C.N.R. abandoned the route and paralleled the Grand Trunk Pacific to Red Pass. The Grand Trunk Pacific was constructing the trestle over Wolf Creek at the time.

Ed put up a log cabin with troughs hewed out of logs, capped with the same for the roof. The floor was Mother Earth. In 1911, Lillian with two children - Nathaniel, then two years old, and Stella,

seven months old - came to Alberta. Stony Boris took Lillian and the two children out to the ranch with a team of oxen and during the trip the cart tipped over twice. In the fall of 1911, Ed put up a new log house, twenty-two feet by twenty-two feet, with a lumber floor and roof, all complete with a cellar. They moved into it in time for the birth of their third child, Warren, on the nineteenth day of February, 1912.

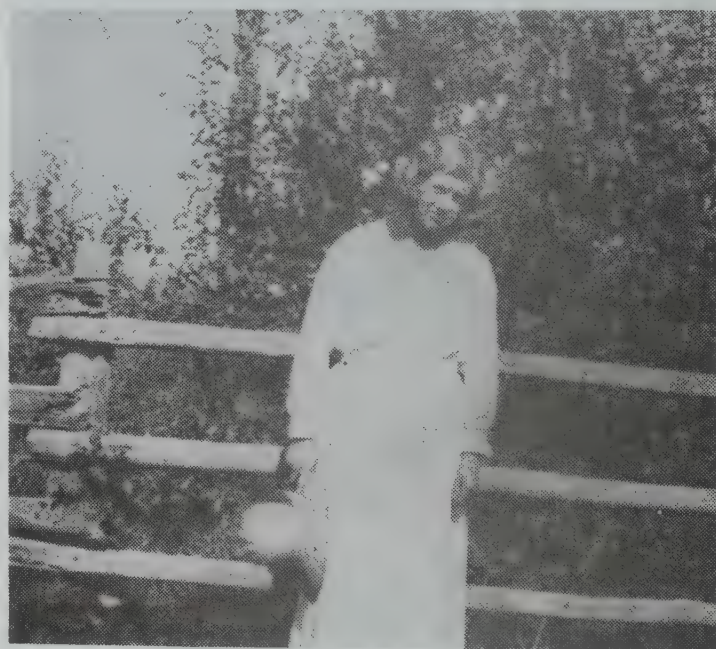
Three corners of the house held beds or bunks. The other was the table and cupboards. The cook stove and large heater made from a cement mixer was in the middle of the room. Even though this heater burned cordwood, the outer parts of the house would freeze in cold weather. A layer of hay covered the vegetables in the cellar. In times of deep snow or very muddy trails, staples would run out, so Lillian had to improvise and use whatever came to hand. A lye made from leaching ashes with water and a bit of coal oil was used for washing clothes.

In the summer of 1911, Ed Kimball had a hired man who told tales of Indians going on the war path. Lillian doubted it but was not sure. One warm day in winter, the snow water was running off the roof. A tub was put out to catch it. Ed had gone to Entwistle, a trip which usually took three days. During this time, the temperature dropped to forty-five degrees below zero. The timber started popping and banging. Lillian, having lived on the prairie, had never heard such sounds. She thought it was rifle fire and that the Indians were on the war path. When the tub of water froze, it made a loud bang next to the wall. "This is it!" she thought, "they are after me and the kids."

Actually, the Indians who trekked from Lac St. Anne up the Pembina trapping and hunting came to be respected friends. The women and children were very bashful, the men did all the talking. Their trail went right through the yard and sometimes they camped on the property. There would be a train of Indians and ponies a mile long. In 1918, the flu took many of their lives. The Rains family were camped two miles north. When they came down with the flu, Tom Rain, a highly respected man,



Edwin P. Kimball 1900 age 17 at law school.



Lillian Kimball, 1929.

died. Ed went to the camp and buried him. Ed wore a mask over his face and escaped the flu, as did his family. After that, there were only three families: Bearheads, Pauls, and Rains, who came this way. They traded meat and moccasins for vegetables, which was good for both sides.

Jim Paul was making part payment for a horse with moccasins. He brought a stick to measure each

child's foot, cutting a notch for each. One of the older children told Roger that Jim was going to cut off his big toe. Roger was very frightened and disliked Jim for years.

Four of Ed and Lillian's children were born without the aid of a mid-wife or doctor. Ed tended the births of Warren in 1912, Annabell in 1914, Julia in 1917, and Roger in 1920. Annabell, a ten-pounder - was a difficult birth. Ed was worried and scared, having partially lost his sight with snow blindness. Five-year-old Natt boiled a jackknife and string, and Lillian tied and cut the cord herself.

In 1914, the Hunt family with two teenage children moved three miles up the river. They came from Ottawa. Mrs. Hunt wanted to get away from people. Late in 1914, Lillian and the four children went to stay with relatives in Coronation in order to obtain medical attention. It was six years later before she got out to Entwistle again.

In 1920, a settlement of bachelors took up homesteads a few miles north. They were John Brown, John Gilbert, Rasmus Peterson, Jack and Bill Cross, Sam Stone, Pat Belcher, and Jim Rogers. Jim was a big Irishman who told tall tales. Warren enjoyed these tales so much, and having a fertile imagination, that he developed the art of story telling. Some of his tales were hairraising, but entertaining. One short story - he and Natt were out hunting game. Having never seen a train, when they saw a locomotive moving through the bush, they opened fire. Just then the train whistled. One said to the other, "We must have hit it, whatever it is. It sure did squeal."

The winter of 1919-1920, known as the "hard winter" took a heavy toll of the cattle and horses. It had been a wet summer and ergot developed in the grass heads. There was no shortage of hay, but the ergot thinned the animals' blood and weakened them. One mare lost her hoofs. It was a long winter, and in May there was still snow on the ground. The ice in the Pembina River went out on May 5th.

In the fall of 1920, Ed went to hospital for twen-

ty months. John Markham rented the place and put up over one hundred tons of hay. The family tended the stock and hauled and cut wood. Things were pretty grim. Lillian grew good gardens to help feed her family. In spring, young marsh marigold leaves, dandelions, stinging nettles, and viny meadow rue plants were welcome greens. Later, cat-tails, pig weed, and wild mushrooms were eaten. The older children hunted grouse, rabbits, wood chucks and porcupines, and fished with a net to keep the pot boiling. They trapped muskrats and weasels. Squirrels were worthless then.

The children made their own toys, whittled from wood or formed from gumbo clay. They made up many games with strict rules which were closely adhered to.

In was a happy day when Ed came home in 1922. In 1924, Natt traded for a 30-30 carbine. Now, big game was to be had. Late in the fall of 1925, Ed was attacked by a Hereford bull. It tossed him around like a toy, throwing him up and catching him on its horns. Lillian grabbed the .22 rifle, and with Curley, the dog, ran to the rescue. The bull had a healthy respect for the dog and ran away when he heard "Sicum". Otherwise, both would have been killed. All Ed's clothing was torn off. He was badly bruised, but not gored, and had no broken bones, which was a miracle. He suffered minor frost bite before he could be transferred to the house.

Lillian had taught the children to read and write and to do simple arithmetic. In 1926, she moved the family out to Reno, where medical attention and schooling were available. They moved into the old Bert Harman cabin until they could build their own home.

Ed stayed behind. Later in the summer, the old house burned. Ed sold the ranch to Mr. Bussy and leased the meadows on Muskeg Creek where he ran cattle.

Reno was like seventh heaven. You could see the smoke from Hermanrude's stove pipes and there



Kimball house in Reno 1934.

were other young people to visit. There were picnics, dances, house parties, and it was only seven miles from Evansburg.

The original Reno School opened at Easter time in 1927. Annabell was the janitor at two dollars per week which was, in those days, good pay. The first pupils were Vic, Smoky and Alice Neighbor, Don Cavanagh, Buck Lamoureux, Bill and Helen Hermanrude, and Warren, Stella, Annabell, Julia and Roger Kimball.

On October 12, 1930, there was a heavy fall of snow with weather cold enough to freeze over the Pembina River. Later the snow all melted and the area was very dry. Late in November, a fire driven by a very high wind swept through central Reno. It burned the school and all the Kimball buildings except for the house. Most of the contents were taken out on the breaking for safety. The breaking burned along with most of the things. Two stoves and a trunk survived. The fire bypassed the planer mill and lumber for the Reno hall. The Reno hall opened in the spring of 1931. It was a real celebration. The hall was entirely built by volunteers.

Ed had poor eyesight, having insufficient color in the iris. He preferred to work after sundown as excessive light caused him nausea. In 1938, he prevailed on Dr. Levy to tattoo his eyes with India

ink, ninety-eight thrusts in one eye, one hundred and two in the other. His were the first seeing eyes to be tattooed. The results were rather disappointing.

Ed Kimball passed away in February, 1954 at the age of seventy-one. He is buried in the Beachmount Cemetery at Edmonton.

Lillian always worked hard, inside and out. She kept the home fires burning. Now, her children were getting older and going out to work. She purchased a bicycle, which gave her a good deal of pleasure and freedom. She campaigned for Old Age Pensions.

There is no doubt that all the many hardships she endured were taking their toll as her health started to fail.

In 1942, Nat built her a cabin in Taylor's yard in Holly Springs. In 1943, she had it moved to Evansburg. Then she bought the Arnup house in Arnupville. This house had housed a store and post office before Evansburg's time.

Lillian Kimball was writing a story of pioneering when she passed away in April of 1949 at the age of



Kimball's
Roger, Annabell, Warren, Julia, Nathaniel and Stella.

fifty-eight. Interment was in the Evansburg cemetery.

Nathaniel Kimball, eldest son of Ed and Lillian Kimball, was a labourer. His first job was with Smith's sawmill at the age of fourteen, then with Corser's tie camp at age fifteen. He worked improving the homestead in summer. In the lumber camps in winter, he worked as sawyer in the mill, or as a cook.

Nat, a skilled hunter, always got his big game. He played the fiddle and mandolin and loved dancing.

In 1942, he married Frieda Philipps of Styal. They both worked very hard to make a go at farming. They had one son, Allan, who is presently assistant manager of Wolff Agencies Ltd., and is a commissioner for oaths. Allan is an avid touring motorcycle fan.

Nat's health failed and in November, 1966, he passed away at the wheel of his truck. Nat is interred in Evansburg cemetery.

Stella married Roy Edmonds in 1938. They lived in the Paskalook house and in lumber camps until 1943 when they moved to Clearwater, B.C.

Roy worked in the lumber mills, and Stella ran a registered trapline, for years. She played the violin and is an accomplished artist in water color, pastels, and oils. Her pictures of wildlife and scenery are so perfect, one can almost smell the greenery.

Roy and Stella have one son, Harvey Edmonds, whose trade is sharpening and keeping saws working in lumber mills. He is an accomplished guitar player. Both Stella and her son reside in Kamloops, B.C. Roy is now deceased.

Warren (Kayo) Kimball was a labourer and worked at a wide variety of jobs in Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon.

While in the Yukon, he was a guide and first-aid man on a crew searching for downed airplanes.

They nicknamed him "Timberline Red" for his red beard and habit of climbing above timberline each evening before bedding down. One such climb paid off. He noticed an extra large sparkle (the glint of the moon on a man's glasses) across the valley. He lit a lichen torch and got a reply. The plane crew were okay except for one man who had a broken leg. They hauled him out on their hand sleigh.

Warren mushed dogs, hauling freight to Snag, Yukon, and was head log carpenter, building the radio station there in the war years.

He worked with the surveyors for the Alaska Highway and throughout northern British Columbia. Warren settled in Clearwater, British Columbia and worked with the forestry as lookout man on the Tumtum mountain.

He was kindhearted and generous, always ready to give a helping hand to the needy. His health was failing, and in 1965, Warren passed away suddenly at his home in Clearwater, at age fifty-two. He is interred at Kamloops, British Columbia.

Annabell married Charlie Taylor in 1932. They lived for ten years on Charlie's homestead in Holly Springs, before moving to Evansburg. They have one son, Vic. In 1957, he married Elaine Sager. They have one son, Donald. Vic is a trucker and resides in Edmonton, Alberta.



Stella Edmonds

Julie received her schooling in Reno. She was beloved by all who knew her, from babies to the elderly. She had various jobs; housekeeping, cooking in lumber camps, and working in restaurants as a waitress or cook.

Julie joined the C.W.A.C. where she served in the officers' mess and then worked at nursing in the military hospital. She went overseas to England, then Holland, where she was a hostess at the Bellview Lodge in 1945. In 1946, she went to work at Yellowknife, N.W.T. for eight months. Her description of Yellowknife was "rocks, whiskey, dogs, Indians, and lots of cold and snow."

Julie then spent a year with old "Uncle Al Kimball" in Spokane, Washington. In 1950, she met and married Keith McMillan, a veteran. They resided in Arnupville, Edmonton and Saskatoon. They have one son, Roland, who was born on the anniversary of V.E. day in 1952 in Aunt Annabell's truck. Roland resides in Edmonton.

Julie passed away in January of 1954. She is buried in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Roger received his schooling in Reno. He worked in the lumber camps until joining the army in 1941 where he served for thirteen years.

In May, 1945, he married Marcella Strauss of Entwistle. They resided in Calgary, Edmonton, Kingston, and Regina. They have one daughter, Darlene, one son Duane, and two foster children, Loucille and Marion. Many foster children have shared the Kimball home over a period of many years.

Roger took his discharge from the army in 1954, and came back to Edmonton, where he worked for O.K. Construction for five years, then owned a service station for three years. He was then employed as an electronics technician with C.N. Telecommunications for eighteen years until his death May 27, 1980.

Roger was talented in many ways, including

music, being able to play almost any instrument. He was the leader in singing for a church prayer group. This same group sang at his funeral.

The Edward Ray Neighbor Family

Compiled by Hersch and Eunice

Edward Ray Neighbor and wife, Louella, originated in Nebraska. Wherever they went, they were called Dad and Ma Neighbor. From Nebraska they moved to Oregon and then to Alberta. Dad Neighbor came to Canada in 1914 to look the land over. No one seems to know why he chose to settle in the frost-bound heavy bush country when he had seen the Williams Lake area and passed it by. The family moved to Alberta in 1915.

The Neighbor children at the time of moving were:

Rufe - twenty years old (already married to Maude - they stayed behind and came in 1916)

Edward - about eighteen years old

Kate - about seventeen years old

Bertha - about fifteen years old

Estelle - eleven years old

Herschel - nine years old

Victor - four years old

Smokey - two years old

Alice - one year old

Dad Neighbor, while in the U.S.A., was mostly a roving homesteader, doing whatever came to hand to make a living - punching cattle, logging, cooking on cattle drives, etc.

As to why he decided to come to the Alberta area, Hersch says that, like any other pioneer, Dad was looking for a new place to go.

They came from Buxton, Oregon to Entwistle, Alberta, by train. From there to where Dad had set up camp, they walked, Ma Neighbor carrying Alice, and Smokey having to be helped along, and the rest of the children trudging along. It was a slow procession. Charlie Morris, who lived three miles south of Entwistle, took his team and wagon and

drove back to Entwistle station to pick up the family's worldly possessions, which consisted of four large trunks.

There was a wagon trail as far as Art Manchester's home. The family made it that far by the first night, approximately four miles. The next day, Morris and wagon went with them. At Charlie Cory's place, they headed south west into the bush following a poor semblance of a trail. Coming to the Pembina River, all pedestrians crossed the river on a raft. It took three trips on the raft to get the walkers across. Morris forded the river with team and wagon. After a bit more bush trail, they came out at Hank Hermanrude's home. Then they went on to Bert Harmon's place where they stopped and had dinner. Bert Harmon was a bachelor from Oklahoma. His land was the NE 24-52-8-W5.

Leaving Harmon's place, they went west past Emile Johnson's place, turned south at what became known as Gus Gibbon's Corner, then one and one-half miles south to Dad Neighbor's NE 14-52-8-W5 where they were welcomed by four log walls destined to be the future house, and a ten by twelve foot tent to move into. After the long, tedious trip, and clouds of buzzing hungry mosquitoes, Ma's thoughts must have been full of the Oregon home far behind! Having almost no utensils to cook with, an airtight heater with a drum oven on the pipe to cook in, and a sparse supply of food, and ten hungry people, Ma Neighbor started her life in the backwoods of Canada.

Back in those days, that part of Alberta was so frosty that no gardens could be raised; no doubt due to the heavy, wet timber cover. There was just a bush trail to the hamlet of Entwistle, eleven miles away. Hersch learned to count to seven quickly. Bert Harmon gave him three steel No. 1 traps with which he could catch seven rabbits to make a meal for the family. Emile Johnson was the closest neighbour, two miles away. None of the aforementioned people had horses except Hank Hermanrude who had one, a small pony called Granny. Any store food thus represented a twenty-two mile trek with a back-pack. As to problems and difficulties



Neighbor home

the family had, it would be easier to list the things they didn't have! It was a tough country with wet, cold summers and six months of severe winters. As soon as possible, Ed took off for other points to work for established farmers in order to procure some cash for the family.

When World War 1 ended in the fall of 1918, there was an influx of settlers to the area. The first school was built in the winter of 1927. The logs were cut and the building erected by available men. Even Vic and Smokey, who were then big boys of fifteen and thirteen years of age, helped with the logging and building of the school they attended. Eleanor Magee from Ohaton, Alberta, was the first teacher, and it was her first teaching job. Dave and Sadie Cavanagh had moved to the area in 1916 and homesteaded the NW 13-52-8-W5, and Eleanor boarded with them. There was a scarcity of young women in the district, so on the morning for the first day of school, all the eligible men conjured up a reason why they had to be doing some work on the road alongside of the school. The real reason was that they wanted to get a good look at the teacher. John Keen was one of the men. John used to spend a lot of time with the Neighbor family. He was the one to be lucky enough to woo and win Eleanor and marry her in 1930.

This being Eleanor's first school, and never having lived in such real wilderness country, she was rather nervous. It didn't quieten her nerves any when she rang the bell and in walked Vic and Smokey, both bigger than she was, and they each



The Neighbor brothers, Rufe, Victor, Hersch, Ed and Smokey.

stood a rifle in the corner along with a black bucket. She didn't say anything right then, but when noon hour came, and they built a campfire outside, took lunch out of the black (smoked) buckets, put snow in the buckets, hung them on a stick over the fire and brewed themselves some tea, she was wondering what kind of mess she had got into. She complained to Cavanaghs and they explained that anyone that was big enough to carry a gun never went anywhere without one and always carried a lunch and tea pail. They assured her there was nothing to worry about. However, she did insist that they build their fire further from the school, and leave their rifles in the woodshed. Eleanor soon became used to such things and was well respected by her pupils. She was a good organizer of small plays and concerts. The school soon became the centre for dances, box socials and so on. Before the school, parties, both impromptu and planned, were held at anyone's home where there was room enough to dance. Neighbor's place seemed to get huge crowds for such times as Easter, Christmas and so on.

One such party took place at Frenchy Robillard's house. Frenchy lived on NE 15-52-8-W5; Frank Kanes was on SE 15-52-8-W5. Kanes came and went before Frenchy arrived. Frenchy had a fair

sized house, the party was warming up and some of Dad Neighbor's homemade beer was being enjoyed by the men. Someone was playing a mouth-organ and Dad was playing his snare drum. About midnight the musicians were playing a fast tune. Frenchy decided to go down in his cellar to get apples for the crowd. His cellar was under the floor and about four feet deep. Frenchy lifted the lid and jumped down. At the same time an itinerant traveller decided to do the Highland Fling. He was going great guns, and as Frenchy stooped over to fill his bowl with apples, Jimmy Morrison danced into the cellar and flattened poor Frenchy! The crowd whooped and laughed. Jimmy sat quietly in a corner. Frenchy gathered up his apples, and the dance went on.

Once we had the school, there had to be a school district that had to have a name. A meeting was called. Dad Neighbor was put in as School Trustee. Kate Lamoureux came up with the suggestion that the name be Reno School District. Dad also was the instigator of forming a Community Club, and of gathering men to clear a site for a hall, and getting it built. This called for the falling and logging of trees and hauling the same to Guy Lamoureux's sawmill where all lumber for the hall was made. Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither was the



The Neighbor Sisters, Kate Lamoureux, Bertha Blair, Estella Coggins, Alice (Pansy) Schaning.

Reno Community Hall, but built it was by 1931. From then on dances, plays and meetings, all took place at the Community Hall. There were no churches, but during the depression of the thirties, there was the occasional self-ordained preacher who would show up and free-load his meals, a night's lodging, and pocket a small collection of cash. It was surprising how many people would turn out to these "church meetings." I well remember the last one we went to - it was winter and -40 °F. A young lady's new baby commenced crying. She did her best to shush it, but it kept crying, and the self-ordained character said, "Will the mother take that crying child outside?" He was the one who was sent outside. I don't remember any more such characters coming to Reno.

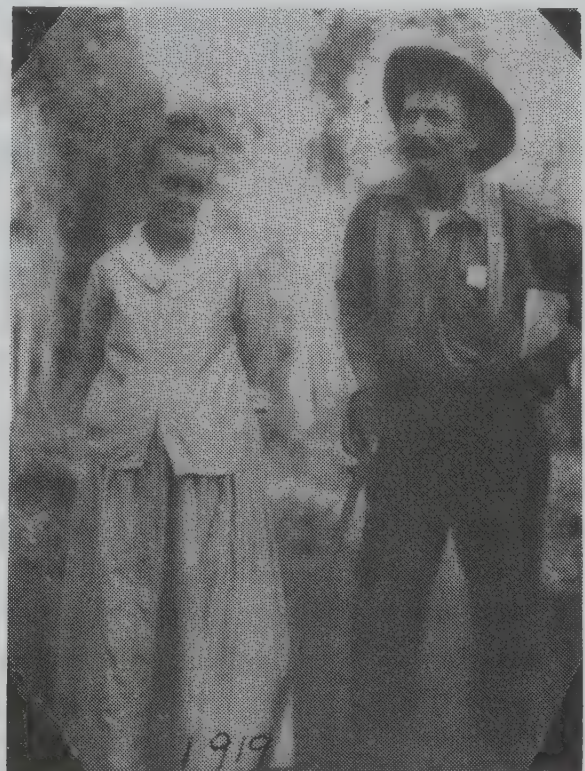
Ma Neighbor died the fall of 1931 and was buried in the Entwistle Cemetery. Dad stayed on the homestead until the late 1940s when he sold it to Jim Kazlauskas. Dad then moved to a house in Arnupville which was on the south side of the railroad near the railroad bridge across the Pembina. Today, Highway 16 goes through the Arnupville area. When a vehicle bridge was built, Dad, being the oldest citizen, was asked to drive the first vehicle across. Dad's last home was in the town of Evansburg, and his eldest daughter, Kate, who was then

widowed, lived with him. Dad died the fall of 1967 at the age of ninety-six. He was buried in Evansburg Cemetery.

(I think you will already have any pertinent information on Kate, Bertha, and other direct members of Dad and Ma's family, so I will give you a rundown on Hersch only.)

Hersch and Eunice Keen were married in December, 1930. Hersch, being a pioneer like his father, moved a lot - as soon as people moved in near us, it would be: "Let's get to hell outa here!" We first left the Reno district in 1938 after being hailed out three years in a row. We moved in a covered wagon pulled by our two saddle horses, Dooley and Spike, a mare with a day-old colt tied behind, and our milk cow that Hersch had shod all around with small sized horseshoes cut in half. Kayo (Warren) Kimball, being a very close friend, came with us. Our not-quite-two-year-old son, Nod (Norris) really enjoyed the eleven-day trip. Hersch made our living as guide and outfitter, and did cattle ranching as well as logging in winter. After many moves, we are now retired in Fort Nelson.

Norris, with a family of nine, lives in Barriere, B.C.; Sandra, our daughter, and her husband, Ron



Mr. and Mrs. Neighbor Sr.

Anderson, have three children - two sons and one daughter. They are ranchers.

Our foster daughter and her husband, Herb Leake, also a rancher and guide, live in northern B.C. Herb and Judy have two daughters and one son.

Victor (Vic) Neighbor

by Annabell Taylor

Victor Neighbor was a horse wrangler and teamster. While in his teens, he was employed on road construction between Highway 16 and Entrance. (Horses were the source of power then).

A bear took to raiding the road camp. Vic, being a natural prankster, set a snare for the bear. It consisted of a cable fastened to an old trunk. One night the bear got caught and took off with the trunk in tow. All the commotion frightened the work horses. They scattered to the four winds and it took most of the next day to get them all rounded up.

Vic brought home some rock-blasting powder. One day he, his brother Smokey, and George Lee loaded an old mower housing with the powder and some old bolts for ammunition. No one realized its potential or noticed that the smokehouse was in the line of fire. They set off the contraption and a mighty blast ensued, the bolts flew like bullets. One long bolt hit the smoke house, went through the wall, through a ham Dad Neighbor was smoking, and out the other wall.

Vic took up a homestead in Reno. He worked in the lumber camps in winter and wrangled horses in Jasper and Entrance on the Athabasca Ranch in summer.

In 1940 he married Elsie Philipps of Styal. They have one son, Howard, who is married and with the B.C. Forestry service in Kamloops, British Columbia. Later Vic and Elsie parted. When the available timber was all logged Vic could see no future in this area. He went to Prince George, B.C. and obtained employment with the C.N.R. He was section foreman until he retired with his new wife Verna on an acreage outside of Prince George.

Alice (Neighbor) Schaning

Born during World War I, Alice, known as "Pansy" to many, was the baby of the family. As her sisters were among the oldest children, Alice grew up with her brothers in the three-storey, hand-hewn log house. It was always open to friends and wayfaring strangers for a meal and lodging for the night, or a longer period of time.

Dad Neighbor had used oxen to clear land and farm in the early years, but Alice, like her brothers, is a horse-person, at home in the saddle. She broke and trained "Chub", a stallion belonging to her brother, Smokey. Alice was never afraid of a horse, but when Stephens' ram shook its fist (hoof) at her, she headed for an upstairs bedroom.

Ma Neighbor died in 1931. Alice kept house for her dad until she married Eric Schaning and went to live on his homestead where their two sons, Hector and Clayton were born. Eric had a sawmill and logged throughout the district. Later he worked in Hinton where he passed away quite suddenly.

The quarter section homestead for ten dollars has gone the way of the horse and buggy, the Model T Ford and the ten cent glass of beer, but in 1964, Hector (Skip) Schaning was granted the last homestead in the Reno district. His grandfather and father had cleared their homesteads with axes, grub



Skip Schaning

hoes and fire. Hector, the grandson, cleared his homestead with the bulldozer in the picture. He married Doreen Horst and has two daughters. They live on the homestead in Birch Hills. Clayton Schaning and his wife, Joan, have one son, Eric, in the Canadian Armed Forces, and a daughter, Carla. Clayton and Joan reside in Gibbons, Alberta, where Clay is a bank manager.

Alice worked outside doing a man's work; logging, fencing, cutting wood, hunting (she was a crack-shot), raising cattle and doing all the necessary jobs that go with farming. She is rough-and-tumble, swears like a trooper, but has a heart of gold. She is forever helping friends, neighbors, troubled motorists and animals in difficulties.

Now, Alice lives alone with five little dogs, some pet rabbits, a pony and two cows. She is a rock-hound and makes rock jewellery. She loves fishing - any kind, any size of fish - as long as they bite.

Ray Neighbor Family

by Annabell Taylor

The Ray Neighbors had nine children.

In 1916 Rufe and Maud Neighbor came to Entwistle. Their first winter here, Rufe cut mine props. Maud boarded five other men who were doing the same type of work.

Rufe went into partnership with Bert Wilkins at Jasper. They were outfitters and guides for hunting and survey parties.

In the thirties, Rufe went to work on the Athabasca Ranch as the manager.

They have two children, one son, Fred, and a daughter, Frances. While on the ranch, Fred was drowned in a flooded field.

Rufe and Maud were instantly killed when a car ran a red light, colliding with their car. They were on the way home from visiting relatives in Oregon.

Frances is married and lives in British Columbia.

Ed Neighbor was instrumental in the growth of Jasper. He formed the first volunteer fire brigade and was fire chief.

He was first in the dray business with draft horses. Later he hauled in goods from Edmonton by truck. He also ran a service station.

Ed spent much time and effort promoting the Yellowhead route.

He drove his car up the old railway grade to Moose Lake. An oncoming train saw his headlights and slammed on the brakes, expecting to collide with another train. The engineer cussed Ed up one side and down the other for being where he had no business to be. Ed just laughed at him.

Ed and Rufe were members of the Masonic Lodge. Ed had many honorary titles.

Ed and Mary have five children. Their two sons are Bruce and Marvin (Tag) who both served with the Canadian Armed Forces. Both are married and have families and live in British Columbia.

The three daughters Binie, Wanda and Catherine are married and have families.

Wanda married Ken Garford. They operate Ed's Service Station in Jasper.

Ed passed away in 1957, never seeing the completion of the Yellowhead Highway. Mary passed away in 1980.

Kate married Guy Lamoureux. They made their home close to the Pembina River. They had a boat which was used for all the foot traffic passing that way. Kate always kept an eye on the river for anyone coming from the east. She would run down and row the boat across and bring them over. The wagon trail forded farther up stream toward Lee's place.

They have four sons, Stanley (Buck), Ward, Wilfred, and Stephen (who passed away in infancy) and one daughter, Beth.

All three boys served in the Canadian Armed Forces, are married and have families.

Buck and wife Marjorie, who now live in Edson, have five children. Stephen married Coleen Tomkinson. They have a boy and a girl, and live in Edson.

Linda passed away, as did son Donald while they resided in Evansburg. Harold (Hal) is another son. Virginia is married to Andy Shand of Peers. They have one son.

Ward and wife Dorothy live in Whitehorse, where Ward is with the Forestry Division. They have three daughters.

Wilfred and wife Rita have a family of eight and reside in Ontario.

Beth married Anton (Tony) Bear of Moon Lake. They have a family of nine. They resided at Whitehorse for many years and then moved to Winfield, B.C. Beth passed away in May 1982.

Guy Lamoureux was a clever man who could turn his hand to many things. He owned and operated a saw mill. Later he operated a planer mill in Evansburg on the site of the Memorial Hall. He was a jeweller and spent his later years in a little shop across from the hall. He passed away in the sixties.

Kate looked after Dad Neighbor in Arnupville and then in Evansburg. After he passed away, she married William Eaton of Peers. Later they moved to Edson where Kate passed away. A year later Bill also passed away.

Bertha married Roy Blair, a World War One veteran, and an engineer on the Canadian National Railway.

Roy filed on a homestead joining Ray Neighbor on the south.

They resided in Edmonton. Bertha would spend

the summers on the homestead to put in time toward proving up the homestead.

Roy was transferred to Biggar, Saskatchewan so Bertha came back to stay on the homestead.

They have two sons, Ray and William, and two daughters, Evelyn, who passed away at age two, and Marion who married Edwin Copeland. They have one son Joseph, deceased, and two daughters. The Copelands reside at New Hazelton where Ed is employed by the Department of Highways.

Ray served in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He married Helen England. They have a family and presently reside in Duncan, B.C.

Billy farms the home place in Reno.

Estella (Tet) married Tom Coggins, a World War One veteran, and Forest Ranger. They made their home at Brule. They have one daughter, Louella, and two sons, Frank and John.

Tom had a perforated stomach ulcer. He was rushed to the Seton Hospital in Jasper. The contents of his stomach had emptied into the abdominal cavity. Dr. Hagen literally took his bowels out of the abdominal cavity and washed them, put them back and sewed him up. Tom recovered without any problems. Small town Dr. Hagen made headlines with his technique.

Tom passed away in 1952. Tet moved to Fanny Bay on Vancouver Island. She passed away in 1981.

Louella married Ben Bruan. They have a family of three girls and one boy. They reside in Vancouver. Frank is married and employed as a Park Warden in Southern Alberta.

John is married and with the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Lorrain (Smokey), the youngest son, worked in the woods in winter and helped Dad with the farming.

Vic found an old dump from railway construction days near Brule. There was a keg of rock blasting powder and Vic brought it home.

The young folks were having a ball with the powder. Smokey, Vic, and George Lee loaded a mower housing with old nails, nuts, bolts and pebbles. It was ready to go! A partridge came and lit in a big poplar tree, not too far away. They aimed at the partridge and ignited it. There was a bang and a roar, as the junk flew through the air. It knocked a lot of limbs off the tree, including the one the partridge was roosting on. The partridge flew away unharmed!

Ma put her foot down, "No more explosions."

Smokey and Vic rigged up a piece of pipe fastened to a two-by-four, filled it with powder and took it down to Lees. George was dubious of the set-up. While Vic and Smokey were arguing over who would get to light it, Smokey quickly stepped up and touched a match to it. There was an instant explosion and the thing disappeared. Some time later George found the remains. The pipe was split from one end to the other and flattened.

Smokey married Levada Taggart of Styal. They went to B.C. and ranched in the Lake Region for many years. They now reside in Vernon, B.C., where they have an acreage and fruit trees.

They have three daughters, Ruth, Della and Jean.

David Cavanagh

by Annabell Taylor

David Cavanagh and Sarah Cameron were married in Barneys River, Nova Scotia, in 1912. From there they moved to Buxton, Oregon, U.S.A. the same year. There they met and were neighbors to the Ray Neighbor family. While in Buxton, a daughter was born, who passed away at a very early age.

In the spring of 1916 the Cavanaghs with Rufe and Maud Neighbor came to Entwistle. They brought with them some day-lily roots which have

descendants growing in yards all the way from Edmonton to Jasper.

David Cavanagh took up a homestead adjoining Ray Neighbor on the east. Their first winter was spent in a tent in Neighbor's yard.

On January 1st, 1918 a son Donald was born. Cavanaghs lived in Entwistle where Don could go to school. They spent the summer holidays on the homestead. When the Reno school opened, they moved to Reno to stay.

Dave was a carpenter and built a number of the rural school houses. One day, Dave was on his way home from town when he spotted a moose in the bush. He shot it, but it did not stay down. So, he fired once more, and downed it. Once again, it got up. So, a final shot, and it stayed down. When he went to cut its throat, he found he had bagged three moose, all close together. The whole community feasted on moose meat. In those days anyone bagging a moose, shared it with their neighbors.

Sarah (Sadie), a seemingly frail little lady, kept their home spotless and was an avid gardener and berry-picker. During her first fall in Reno, she was alone, as Dave had gone to work on the prairies, harvesting, to get funds to carry on. To "go out to harvest" was the main source of funds for the early settlers. Later, there were lumber camps to work in during the winter.

Dave had put up the log walls for the house and a log barn, with split logs for a roof. Lumber was unobtainable for the floor and roof of the house.

Sadie was up in the barn doing some chinking, when she spied an unsavory creature eye-balling the calf pen. She was afraid, but climbed down and ran for the tent. She unleashed their two blood-hounds and along with Kate Neighbor, both armed with rifles, ran to rescue the calf. The hounds soon put the lynx up a tree and Sadie shot it. Sadie wrote home to Nova Scotia of her adventure. The story got into the Boston newspaper. Sadie received many cards and letters from complete strangers, admiring her bravery.

In 1948, Cavanaghs left the homestead and moved, first to Arnupville, and then to the new home Dave built in Evansburg, presently owned by Bud McGowan. Dave passed away in 1954 and is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery.

Sadie kept her tidy yard beautiful with flowers. In her home, many houseplants flourished, especially African violets.

At age ninety, after fracturing her arm, she moved into Sunshine Lodge. In 1982, she went to the Good Samaritan nursing home in Stony Plain. The last time I saw her she was busy knitting at age ninety-six.

Don Cavanagh worked in the lumber camps. He went overseas with the Canadian Armed Forces, and was awarded the Bronze Oak Leaf.

He went to British Columbia where he worked with forestry products and went prospecting. He is presently a placer gold miner at Likely, British Columbia.

John and Annie Lee

submitted by Annabell Taylor

John (Jack) Lee and Annie Boyle were married in Birmingham, England in 1903. In 1907 a son, George, was born. In 1912 Jack came to Evansburg to work in the boiler room of the Pembina Peerless Coal mine. In 1913, Annie and George joined him.

Jack filed on a homestead, as did all the miners. He had Emil Johnson build a log house on his homestead, after which the family moved in.

In 1914, Jack, being a machinist, joined the Canadian Armed Forces and went to England, Scotland, and then Chicago, U.S.A. He had heard that Chicago was a tough place, so he purchased a hand gun for protection. The only incident was having his hand gun stolen.

While Jack was away, Annie and George moved into the Canadian Northern station house in Entwistle so George could attend school.

Jack came home and they moved back to the homestead, then to the McKillop house, south of Entwistle. George attended school north of where the Brightwood hall stood. While they were residing at this location, a daughter, Ethyl was born.

The Lees moved back to the homestead. George attended school which was held in Louis Lamoureux's home, across from Nels Andersons.

George would get up at five in the morning and round up and milk the cows, row a boat across the river, and walk three and a half miles to school.

One dark night in October, Annie sent George out to count the chickens and to shut the chicken coop door. He took the coal oil lantern and counted the chickens, when a commotion took place in the pig pen. The old sow was lustily squealing and fighting something. Suddenly the noise stopped. George could hear footsteps coming his way. He re-entered the chicken coop and braced his shoulder against the door. In fear and trembling, he heard the footsteps pass by. When he could no longer hear them, he still waited a while, then ran for the house. Annie said, "What took you so long just to shut the door?" The marauder must have been a bear.

One Sunday, George went to visit at Neighbors. He was to start home early enough to bring the cows home. It was getting dark, when he found all but one of the cows. He went into the thick bush and spotted the cow. He swatted it on the rump with a stick and yelled, "You old so-and-so, get home!" It was like an explosion. A bull moose took off and a cow moose jumped up, creating quite a commotion. When they got out into the open he could see what they were.

Jack constructed a river raft to float down the Pembina river to Entwistle. He planned on taking George along, but Annie forbade George to go; it was too dangerous. Jack launched the raft and while running the channel between the islands opposite their home, it hit an obstruction, and overturned, throwing him into the raging river. Though

Jack was a strong swimmer, the water kept swirling him away from the bank and it took all he had to finally reach shore.

Ethyl was now school age, but for a little girl, school was too far away. Annie wasn't happy pioneering, so in 1924 she took Ethyl and went back to England. Jack and George batched, having a housekeeper in the busy seasons.

George made gun powder. One day, he put some powder in the oven to dry, with the fire on low. He went out to do the chores. Unexpectedly, Jack came home and stoked the fire. The gun powder ignited, filling the house with thick smoke. When George came in Jack said, "What ever did you have in the oven?" George was loath to say, "gun powder".

One time Jack was fording the river with his team and wagon when the rapid water overturned the wagon. Jack managed to release the doubletree from the wagon. The horses were swept downstream, but one horse had its head tangled in the harness and was drowned.

On one nice spring day, George, with a pack sack on his back and a twenty-two rifle in hand, was hiking to Jensen's store at Moon Lake to get groceries. He followed the winter path for about a hundred and fifty feet out onto the ice on Moon Lake, when the whole ice collapsed. He got to shore, heaved the rifle onto land, but had a very difficult time getting a hand hold on the bank. There was a four foot drop-off with very deep water below.

In 1929, Lee's housekeeper, Miss Finan and George were eating supper when lightning struck the house. It knocked George unconscious and blew one heavy work boot off his foot. Miss Finan's clothing was torn to shreds, and one slipper torn apart. Her Rosary burned a print on her neck, and no fragments of it were ever found. She was deeply burned where her corset stays fitted. All the windows were broken with some pieces of glass being driven into the soft cedar inside door, while other window glass literally disappeared.

In the mid-thirties, George and Warren (Kayo) Kimball went panning for gold on the Macleod River at Peers. They panned for three days, and only found three dollars worth of gold. Kayo quit panning, as he could do better working in a lumber camp. George went with him, but in two weeks the camp closed down for the summer. George went back to gold panning. He met Ole Olson, a cousin to the Peter Olsons of Brightwood. They then met up with two more men who were panning gold, so all worked together. They located one seam which netted one half an ounce of gold in one day. Gold was then worth twenty dollars an ounce.

On one black dark night the ferry was out of order, so George had to walk all around a big bend in the river to get back to camp. He fell into a test hole up to his arm pits. It was a tight fit, making it difficult to get out. Later the same night he encountered a bear in the bush. George was very relieved when he reached his tent home.

George had a Model T Ford truck which he undertook to drive across the Macleod River where other vehicles had forded. The river had risen and the Model T hit a hole and was nearly swept away. The engine was under water. Ole Olson guided the truck and George pushed it to shore. The next day, it was dried out. George opened the plug on the oil pan and ran the water out until the oil started coming. He put the plug back in, cranked the engine and it started right-off.

In the thirties, George and Nathaniel (Nat) Kimball hiked up and then crossed the Pembina River on the ice, their destination being Bear Lake to trap rats. They camped in an old shack which was rather dark inside. George was inside the shack when he saw Nat coming. For a joke he growled like a bear. Nat ducked around the corner of the shack, then came back with his axe held high. George decided it was time to quit fooling around and made his presence known.

The trapping was poor, as some other trapper had beat them to it. They started home, and found the ice had gone out of the river. They chopped down some trees, built a raft, and floated home.

Jack Lee passed away in 1969. George Lee still lives on his homestead in the Reno district, south of Evansburg.

The Copeland Family

by Dave Copeland

Charley and Beatrice Copeland moved from Gem, Alberta about 1918 to settle in the Brightwood district, on the place now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Nels Anderson. Edwin Copeland was born there in 1920. From there they moved to the homestead Charley filed on, SW 20-52-7-W5th. There he built his first home and fulfilled his homestead agreement. Another son, William was born in June of 1927. In 1929 Charley built another house which was his home for many years. Another son, John David, was born there in April of 1930.

Sometime during those same years Beatrice's brother Joseph (Joe) Pilgrim homesteaded and improved the quarter west of Charley's homestead.

Joe's house was later used as a school and sometimes as a dancehall. It was one of the few frame houses in the district at the time.

Charley was a farmer all of his life and had never owned land until coming to this area. He had either rented or, as he had in Gem, farmed for the Canadian Pacific Railroad.

This was his prime reason for coming to the Reno district. Here he owned his farm, house, barn, and paid taxes.

During the early years, many people travelled to the Brightwood hall for dances, box socials, and meetings of various kinds. Later the people of the Reno district built the Reno hall where many dances, Christmas concerts, and sometimes even church was held.

No one ever thought of babysitters then. Everyone took the children with them. Benches were lined along the walls, and, if the parents were dancing, the little ones were sleeping on the benches or in a room built in one end of the hall, referred to generally as the cloakroom.

On one occasion one of the neighbors' boys went to sleep in Charley's sleigh or wagon and was not discovered until Charley arrived home with one too many. The next day the boy was delivered to his own parents rested, fed, and happy. Apparently no one was too upset over the incident. It was the source of many chuckles for years afterward.

The roads were poor in the early years - just trails cut where the timber was not too thick or the swamp too deep to get through with a wagon and horses in summer. In winter you could take a shorter route to most places because everything was frozen. From the homestead to Evansburg was nine miles and took a days' travel to accomplish summer or winter. The trip to town, as it was referred to, was always quite an event. It only happened once a month or so during winter and everyone was included - even Edith, who was born in June of 1933. She was wrapped in blankets and taken along. In summer, trips were more frequent since there was cream to be delivered to the railroad station to be shipped by train to Edmonton. It was not unusual to have a wagon wheel break, a tire come off the wheel, or to spend some time getting the wagon out of mudholes sometimes deep enough to mire a horse.

Nothing, like getting stuck for a hour or so, was considered serious. Sometimes it was even funny if someone happened to lose his balance and fall in the mud.

Sundays were often spent picnicking on the Pembina River with a big square pan of fried chicken, in case the fish weren't biting, or the kids got too hungry from swimming and playing in the water. These were always fun days for the whole family. Someone would always manage to fall in the water with his clothes on or get a fishhook caught in the seat of his pants and some times a bit deeper than the pants - requiring Dad's pocket knife and good humor to remove it.

In winter we all had sleighs that Dad made for us to slide down the several hills and to haul wood for cooking and heating the house. Many bruises were acquired sliding down the hill from the house to the

barnyard. There were manure piles of several sizes to run into, and sometimes Dad, returning with his hands full of milk pails, would be met and capsized by one or more of us coming down the hill at a good rate of speed, especially after dark.

During the mid to late 1930's we used a team of oxen to replace horses for farming and traveling. They were slow at best and exasperating at all times and most of the time Dad used typical muleskinner's language which we were never allowed to repeat.

There was a school about two and a half miles distant where we all attended for part or all of our education - one room, one teacher and what probably seemed like thousands of pupils to some of the teachers. Mrs. Roy Hadley was one of the early teachers at the Reno school. Later Miss Gerda Connigsen, Mrs. Clemmens, Miss Walsh and Miss Kaholick, and several supervisors carried on the education of from twenty to thirty pupils until school buses replaced the country schools in the 1950's.

Charley passed away July 4, 1955, and was buried in the Evansburg cemetery. Beatrice remained on the homestead for two years, then rented the farm and moved to Entwistle. In 1967 the Department of Water Resources purchased the farm for a dam project and leased it to Ben VanEs who still farms and holds a lease on the property.

Beatrice lived in her son's home in Entwistle until her passing in February of 1977. She is buried beside Charley in the Evansburg cemetery.

Edwin Copeland, World War Two veteran, now resides in New Hazelton, B.C. William resides in Merritt, B.C. Dave resides in Entwistle. Edith resides in Entwistle when she is not away working.

Bill Clack

by Annabell Taylor

Bill Clack was an unusual man to say the least. He was a Cockney from England. Bill was a veteran, who took up a homestead and soldier's

grant. (This property is now owned by McCrackens).

Being kind hearted, he let his pig and chickens share his cabin. Being a cook, it was his pleasure to take a cake or treacle tarts to the dances (midnight lunch was always donated). No one wanted to offend him by refusing his treats, so would take some. After a dance in the school house there would be cake in every desk.

He had a team of horses, named Babe and Nickie, but had no idea of how to work or ride them. One day, I watched him trying to catch Nickie. He was following the horse around, holding out a pail saying, "Ere Nickie, 'Ere Nickie". Nickie, wanting to graze, kept walking away. Finally, Nickie turned around and with both feet kicked him in the middle, knocking Bill flat on the ground.

I started running to help him, but before I could get through the fence, he got up, picked up the pail, and started following Nickie in the same fashion.

In early spring of 1927, his cabin burned. The burning roof fell in on him, burning his hair, one side of his face, and both hands. He walked a mile to our place. My mother mixed a batter of baking soda and coal oil and plastered his burns. He was ever grateful for the way Mrs. Kimball eased his pain. He then walked to Neighbors, who kept him until he healed. Later he moved into the old Gibbons shack.

Bill donated enough timber to pay for all the nails, shingles and tarpaper for the Reno hall. While logging the timber in 1929, a big spruce tree fell on him. The other loggers came to his aid, but he came climbing out the boughs saying " 'ell, hI'm hall roit".

He seemed indestructible, but in the mid thirties, he got his feet frozen. He said "I thot I heard somethin' crackin'".

He was hospitalized and his feet were amputated.

He spent his remaining years in an institution.

Magnus Olsson

I, Magnus Olsson, was born in Denmark. I arrived in Canada in July, 1924 and went to work for a farmer in Saskatchewan. I had been a blacksmith in the Old Country and hoped to continue my trade.

I homesteaded N.W. 6-51-8-5. Later on I bought N.W. 7-52-8-5 from Gat Green and another quarter across the road, which I believe was in section 12.

I built a log cabin and the only tools I had were a Swede saw and an axe.

My closest neighbors were across the road. Evansburg was about nine and a half miles away.

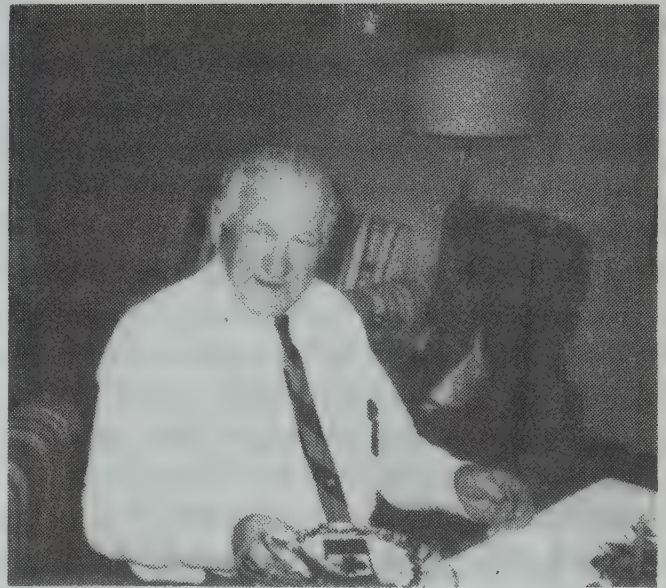
How to get used to the cold winters was my greatest problem as it was so different in Denmark. Once when I was out of tobacco, I was foolish enough to walk to Evansburg in 52 below zero weather.

In 1929 I worked in a sawmill south of Peace River for about a year and a half. I wanted a homestead. So I found a homestead. Later I found out that there were so many Indians around. I didn't speak English very well, so I was plenty worried. It was half-Indian, not Indian. They all spoke English better than me.

When I quit the sawmill, I went to Peace River and explained I wanted another homestead. I had to have a good reason, otherwise I wouldn't be able to get another one. So I said "there is no water." I had dug thirty or forty feet down and there was no water. So they accepted that and gave me a letter, stating I had a second chance to take a homestead. I carried that letter around until 1930.

Then two other fellows, Jim Whitechuk and Jack Kerly, came with me to take up homesteads in the Reno district.

I was supposed to be the master of building



Magnus Olsson on his 75th birthday.

buildings. Jim Whitechuk got his shack first. It had a sod roof and dirt on top of that.

Jim only stayed one winter. The following spring he took his stuff and left. Jack Kerly left and never came back.

When we built my shack I didn't have much help to build the walls because the timber was not too big. It was from a nice patch of spruce. Then I put on the roof. There was still no floor. After I got the floor in, I chinked the walls with moss.

A heavy windstorm came up. I could hear the trees falling all around the shack. I stood in the corner to be safe. When I got up in the morning trees were lying criss-cross all over. I had to cut a trail to get out to the road. I was down in a flat by the river so I had to cut all that good spruce and wait for it to dry before I could use it.

After that a big fire came from the west. For a whole week I was by myself with smoke all over the place. I didn't know what was going on. Later I found out it started south of Styal. I believe this was in 1931. Everyone down there will remember that fire. I believe Erwin Fetzer lost his shack.

Some of my neighbors were Baptise Tindel, Eric Schaning, Fred Lee, Hank Hermanrude, Garfords and Mundys.

Once a child of five, a grandson of Edward

Dorn, got lost in the bush. Everyone looked for the boy for two days. But when he was found, he was dead.

I had been in the Danish Army and had permission to stay in Canada for only three years. A person that was out of Europe had to go back to his country in case of war. But I wanted to stay in Canada and be a Canadian citizen. So I got my papers. Then if I went for a visit they couldn't keep me there. I went east and worked in Lasar, Quebec. I learned French good enough to cuss and swear. Then I learned to shut up because I didn't know for sure what I was saying.

One time I wanted to go to town. My sleigh was broken so I took my stoneboat. I loaded up my cream can. The horses made a jump and started to run. The neck yoke came off the pole and I had to let go of the lines. The horses ran down to George Lee's place and were standing in some small trees. Nothing was broken. I had to walk back about three quarters of a mile to the stoneboat. I fixed that short pole so that wouldn't happen again.

One of my neighbors asked me to sign a petition so a school could be built. I didn't have any kids but I signed up anyhow. I thought it would be a benefit to the community. So we got a school. My taxes were four dollars and fifty cents, and as soon as we got the school, they went up to nine dollars. That was the Victory School.

There were some entertainments in the school house. Once in a while I went there but not very often, because they were held mostly in the winter. During the winter time I had sense enough to stay home - we had so much cold weather. Trails were poor and there was no ride. In the summer there were political meetings in the hall.

When I first came, I tried to hunt but wasn't very successful. I hadn't learned how to track the game and always shot too late. The second year I was lucky in the early part of the season and shot a moose.

A homesteader and I found some holes in the

ground with skunks in them. I set traps and was very successful. Out of one hole I got eight skunks, so I figured that was all. My friend needed his trap so I went down to get it, carrying a flashlight and a 22. I could hear something in the trap. I shot one and pulled out the trap. There were two there so I got shot in the cheek. After I shot the other one there was an awful stink. My neighbor Keiths happened to come home early in the morning from a dance and I could hear them talk. They sure didn't like the smell. Later I got four more skunks - twelve altogether. When I got home that night it was kind of late. I had to skin the skunks and stretch them the same night. The following morning I changed clothes. It was awful, I tried to wash them, and washed them several times. I thought they were okay. I put them in the river for a long time.

Then I started to trap muskrats, I had to learn how to skin them from an oldtimer named George Ale.

About a week after, I had to go to town to sell my skunk hides. I had three or four muskrats at the same time. When I got to Evansburg, a dog came along and barked at me. I threw something at him. It looked as though he was going to bite me. I didn't get very far before there was another dog. By the time I got to the post office there were three. I sat down. Two men came along. One of them said "I think there's been a skunk around. I can smell it." That made me think maybe the postmaster wouldn't take my skunks. I needed the money. When Mr. Bell, the postmaster, came along I asked him about it. He said, "If they're not too ripe." He smelled the parcel, put it on the scale and weighed it. I was getting a dollar apiece for the skunks.

Well, the first day I came to Edmonton I got a job north of Fort Saskatchewan. We were going to thresh after dinner. We sat down to eat dinner. The farmer's wife said "Any of you fellows come from the bush?" I turned around and said "Yes, I'm from the bush. I hope there's not a bad smell." "Oh no," she said, "when my boy was trapping he smelled just like you."

I went home to Denmark in 1958. They didn't

put me in jail or fine me. I have since been back several times.

I bought the old house across from the post office. Then I traded it off for a quarter section of land. Here I started working with cattle. I sold my farm in 1958 and moved into Evansburg.

The Douglas Family

Vernon C. Douglas lived on a farm at Dried Meat Lake, Alberta. He had lived there since he was a boy of thirteen. He and his parents came to Alberta from South Dakota.

He often drove to Wetaskiwin. One day, while there on business, he met Maggie Wilcox, formerly from Bashaw, Alberta. They were married on January 30, 1916, and farmed at Dried Meat Lake until the spring of 1927. Then they decided to take a homestead at Reno, Alberta.

Four of their children - Irene, Dolly, Don and Elwood were born while they lived at the Lake. Bonnie was born about three years after they moved to the homestead.

In 1944 they decided to leave the farm and move to Entwistle. They bought a second-hand store there. Life was becoming easier for them, when Vern suffered a heart attack and passed away at the age of fifty-eight.

Maggie kept the store, and later married Mr. C. P. Jensen from Moon Lake, Alberta. They carried on with the store business in Entwistle for several years.

Finally Mr. Jensen passed away. Maggie sold the store to Mr. Otto Hofmann, who converted it into a dry-cleaning and laundry business. Maggie then bought a house south across the street from Linda Starling's store, where she lived in retirement.

Later she married Mr. Ray Melvin from Evansburg. She and Mr. Melvin lived in the house until she passed away in 1974.



Reno District Girls - 1936

(L—R) Isobel Hermanrude, Marion Blair, Beth Lamoureux, Viola Maguire, and Bonnie Douglas.

Dolly married Albert Wurm. They live in Clearwater, B.C. They have seven children.

Don married Norma Rowe from Toronto. They have four children, and live in Clearwater, B.C.

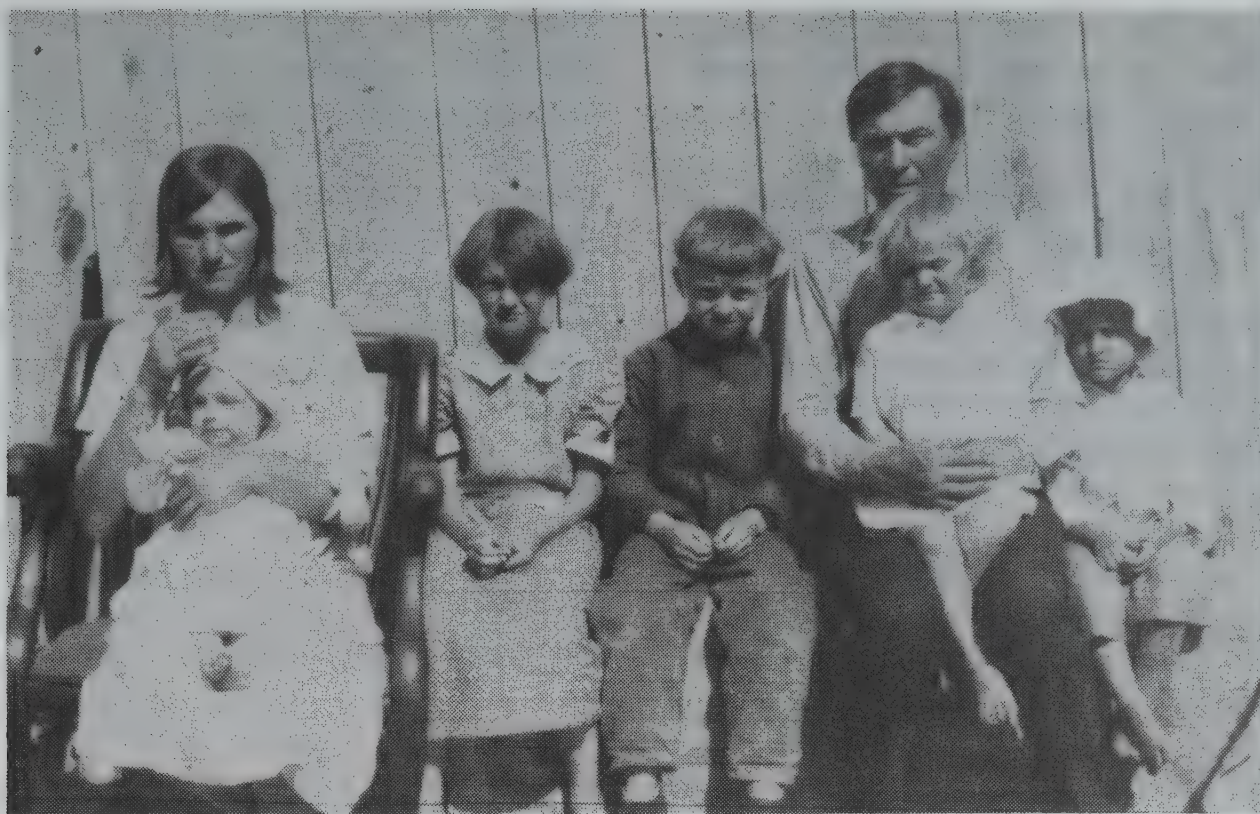
Bonnie married Bill Messenger from Entwistle. They have five children and also live in Clearwater, B.C.

Irene married Jack Taylor. They had three children. The youngest, a son, passed away in December, 1981. They live in Edmonton.

Elwood married Ida Foreman of Entwistle, and they moved to Spedden, B.C. Ida passed away several years ago. They had four children.

The Prylowski Family

William Basil Prylowski was born in Pinsk, Poland on 26th September, 1892. After being discharged from the Polish Army he decided to venture abroad after hearing reports that he could obtain both land and work in Canada. Upon arriving in 1928 he found a very different picture; there was very little work to be found, so he made his way West and took a homestead in the Reno area. He did find some part-time and seasonal work with established farmers, mainly helping with the harvest. During these times he was working out near



Mr. and Mrs. Prylowski with Nick, Ann, Steve, Lil and Pete.

Redwater, Alberta; stooking from sun-up to sun-down for twenty five cents a day and a meal.

After the harvest of 1928 he decided to return to his homestead as the farmer he worked for was only offering room and board during the winter months, in exchange for him doing chores on the farm. He rode the freight train home by boarding once it was in motion. That, of course, was illegal, but in those days many people resorted to it as a way to save money. When he arrived he started to build a house with only the simple tools he had bought in Edmonton on his way west.

He cut the logs, hewed them in the bush and then proceeded to drag them by hand, with the aid of a pole and rope, to the site of his proposed home. Some of the logs were moved that way for hundreds of yards and then pulled up by hand onto the walls of the building. The sixteen by twenty foot, one room dwelling was completed a few days before Christmas, after two months of hard labour. His next task was to hand fashion a bed, table and chairs from the remaining wood in preparation for his forthcoming marriage. Nothing was wasted, the wood chips left over from making the meagre furniture were put into the wood stove.

During this time his fiancée Nina Lemeszewski, who was born in November, 1905, also in Pinsk, was making her way to Canada by the White Star Shipping Line. She landed in Halifax and then travelled onward to meet her future husband in Edmonton, where they were married on 12th February, 1929. The day after the wedding, he and his twenty three year old bride set off, on foot, for their home in Reno. He helped around lumber camps for the rest of the winter as they became adjusted to their new life.

In the Spring they both returned to the farmer in Redwater for whom he had worked the previous year. They both worked hard that Summer for five dollars a month, helping to plant crops and clear land. No living quarters were provided and although they took their meals in the farm house they slept in the hay loft above the barn. They stayed for the harvest and then returned to Evansburg. This time he purchased some household goods and had Tom Mazeppa haul them out from Evansburg with his oxen team. He immediately started to clear some land for himself. He also cleared much land for his neighbours for which he took commodities instead of money. He would clear up to five acres of land for a cow, and that included

disposing of all debris so that the land was ready to be broken. He also built several barns in the neighbourhood, some of which still stand today.

On 30th January, 1930 Nina gave birth to their first child, Ann, aided only by a neighbouring farmer's wife. That Spring they stayed home and planted a few acres of crop and started to fence a small pasture for the few cows they now owned. Nina worked alongside her husband in whatever he did, be it clearing land or ploughing, with her baby strapped to her back or in a basket near where she worked. The only way they had of bringing home provisions was to carry them the ten miles south from Evansburg, including the sacks of grain for his first planting. It was during this period that he earned his nick-name of 'Big Bill'.

The water was at first brought from the stream by which the house stood until a hand dug well was made to the depth of seventy feet. After descending the shaft by means of a rope, Bill would dig the dirt at the bottom and load a pail which was hoisted up to be emptied. The larger rocks were too heavy to be removed intact so had to be broken up into manageable pieces.

The food was very basic, consisting mainly of home grown vegetables and wild meat. Only the necessities of salt, flour, tea and sugar were purchased. A coffee substitute was made from toasted grain for normal use although a small amount of coffee was reserved for special occasions and cereal was made out of ground grains. Most of the clothing was purchased but flour sacks were used to make some items of clothing, pillows and quilt backing. All clothing was mended many times to prolong its life but when no longer serviceable was cut up to mend newer items and the scraps utilized to provide insulation in their log home.

Bill again went out to work for the harvest leaving Nina to care for the animals and to bring in their first crop. When he returned he had saved enough money to buy a cheap team of horses for ten dollars which left only four dollars for housekeeping, so he decided to sell three of his now increasing herd of cattle. He and Sam Myschuk, a

fellow pioneer, hired a truck for five dollars to take their cattle to market in Edmonton. When they arrived the prices were so low that he would only have received two dollars and fifty cents for his animals, but they found no buyer whatsoever, so he gave his only rifle to the trucker as payment and drove his animals two and one half days until he reached home. He made it just in time, as the following morning there was a foot of snow.

Several days later he butchered his largest Holstein steer and sold the meat in the district. He salvaged the hide and once tanned, he made his own harness for his newly acquired team, purchasing only the metal ware, and used the cash to buy pigs, chickens and much needed equipment.

News of Bill's 'cattle drive' spread quickly through the area and caused a few chuckles, but he seemed to be the only one not amused by the story. Each time someone mentioned the incident he became more irate. Bill arrived at the Post Office and general store, which was a lean-to at the side of the hotel, run by Mr. Bell, and was handed two large bundles of mail from the old country. He opened a couple of them and then threw the whole lot into the coal pails by the fire, saying that they were only letters from his friends asking to be sponsored for entry into Canada, which was impossible as he couldn't find steady work himself.

Mr. Bell then made the mistake of mentioning the 'cattle drive' and that proved to be the final straw for Bill, who proceeded to tell the local magistrate, "You may laugh at my stupidity but I am so fed-up with capitalism that the steer hide I tanned will support all the capitalists in hanging them. I had a good living in the old country but couldn't expand and if I had enough money to buy a ticket home I would leave all my belongings behind." A hush fell over the tiny store and that story was not mentioned in Bill's presence for many years.

During the winter he started to build himself a barn and with the help of the team it made things much easier. In the spring of 1931 he again planted a crop but had to work very early in the morning

because later in the day the flies were so bad that it was impossible to control the horses. As summer approached he was plagued by more hardships. The horses, unaccustomed to the appalling conditions of wet and flies, both died and he was again without a team. Bill's neighbour helped harvest his crop with his horses and also threshed it with one of the first separators in the area. Most of the separator was made of wood with the exception of a few shafts and the straw had to be taken away by hand from the back of the machine and then stacked.

Bill helped neighbours in exchange for work which he couldn't do without a team, but he cut his own fodder from the natural sloughs with a scythe as the cleared land was too precious to use for making hay. Later he teamed up with a neighbour and they made hay on a large natural meadow about ten miles away from home. There were no roads so they used the existing logging trails and made new ones of their own to move in the equipment.

The horse mower and dump rake were pulled as far as possible by the team and then dismantled into manageable pieces to be carried the remaining two or three miles on the men's backs. The horses were then led in single file to the meadow and the machinery reassembled before any work could be done. When winter came the hay was hauled by bob sleigh, half a load at a time, securely lashed together with rope, so that when it tipped over in the rough terrain it could be righted again without reloading. This meadow still exists in the crown land by the Bigoray River although today the perimeter has grown up with bush.

By 1939, (see picture) they had five children; Nick - one, Anna - nine, Steve - six and a half, Lil - three and Pete - five, and they had moved into a two storey home with a cellar for storage. The first school house was three and a half miles east and the only way to get there was on foot. In later years the neighbours all chipped in to build the one-room Victory Schoolhouse which was only a mile from home. Grades one to nine were taught in the small school but anyone desiring more than grade nine had to go the ten miles to the school in Evansburg.

School busing of children to Evansburg started about 1953 but the roads were still so atrocious that the children would miss about a month of school each spring as the roads were totally impassable. Even when the school bus was running, children walked as much as four miles to meet it.

Dances were held quite frequently in the Reno Hall and people would come from as far as Moon Lake and Styal with their horses to join in these socials. Liquor was usually brought to these socials and most of it was homemade. The moonshine was of varying quality, depending upon the maker, some were remarkably good and others were so rough they left the drinker's mind wandering after a few swallows. There were many stills in the district, most of which were well concealed: one in particular was never found by the R.C.M.P. although they searched for it diligently on many occasions. It was hidden in the stable beneath a trap door covered with manure and was purported to be one of the best and most productive stills.

Living conditions started to improve about the time of the outbreak of war as the prices received for farm goods were steadily increasing. During the war years Nina had two more children, Winston in 1940 and Victor in 1945; they were followed five years later by Paul, the only one of her eight children not to be born at home.

With the war, rationing of food was introduced and booklets of stamps were obtained every month, also supplies of nails and other building materials were limited. Depots were set up to collect old rubber boots, pots and scrap iron which were sent to smelters to be recycled, and everyone was encouraged to donate as much as possible. After the war, when rationing came to an end better quality products became readily available.

By the late 1940's a number of farmers had obtained tractors and were using them along with horses, and as the 50's progressed horses were being replaced by mechanized equipment and threshers replaced by combines. Land was being cleared mainly by bulldozers and broken by machinery. Farms were expanding at an alarming rate as loans

were now available to buy land and equipment.

Although it was now easier to make a living Bill did not slow down, he kept expanding and working hard to the end. The dreams that had brought him to Canada had finally been realized. He never retired from farming and did as much as he could until his health started to fail in 1980. He passed away on 7th February, 1981, Nina followed shortly afterwards on 30th November and both were laid to rest in the Evansburg Cemetery. The farm was left to the next generation and is now being operated by their three youngest sons.

The Edward Dorn Family

Edward Dorn with his wife Bertha and children, arrived in Canada from Kiev, Russia, in October, 1928.

They lived in Bruderheim for about two and one half years. They then came to Evansburg and homesteaded about twelve miles south in the Reno district. The road was just a trail. In the 1930s they, and some of the other homesteaders, built a road with horses and scrapers.

They had four more children - Lydia, Lewy, Sophie and Henry. There was no school close enough at first. Later, when Victory School was built, some of the children were able to attend.

The Dorn children are all married and live in various parts of the country. Bertha is living in Edmonton, Alberta. Edward Dorn passed away in June 1949 and is buried in the Evansburg Cemetery. He was a farmer all his life.

The Farmer Feeds Them All

Mrs. Lester Swartz - Alta Vista Kansas
(with kind permission from "Farm Wife News")

The politician talks and talks, the actor plays his part;

The soldier glitters on parade, the goldsmith plies his art.

The scientist pursues his germ o'er the terrestrial ball

The sailor navigates his ship, but the farmer feeds them all.

The preacher pounds the pulpit desk, brokers read their lengthy tape;

The tailor cuts and sews his cloth, to fit the human shape.

The dame of fashion, dressed in silks, goes forth to dine and call,

Or drive, or dance, or promenade, but the farmer feeds them all.

The workman wields his shiny tools, the merchant shows his wares;

The astronaut above the clouds a dizzy journey dares.

But art and science soon would fade, and commerce dead would fall,

If the farmer ceased to reap and sow,
For the farmer feeds them all.

The Mundy and Davey Story

by Fanny E Davey

As the Mundy and Davey families have been closely associated for more than fifty years, I am going to write about them both in one story.

My father, Frank B. Mundy, was born in England in 1872. He came to Manitoba when he was eighteen and farmed near Elkhorn. My mother was born in Wales, though her family was originally from Devon, England, as was my father's family. Mother came to Elkhorn when she was seventeen to help her grandmother. She and Dad were married in 1900. They had two daughters, Anna and Fanny.

The family came west to Lougheed, Alberta, in 1912, and settled on a "ready-made" C.P.R. farm about ten miles from town. This farm consisted of a half section of land, fenced with split cedar posts and three strands of barbed wire, thirty acres of land ready to be put into crop, and a small frame house and barn. One of the first things Dad did was to organize the community into a school district. Consequently, Goose Creek School was built. This building is still standing and is used for an entertainment centre. Dad was active in the Agricultural Society and in the U.F.A. movement, which was then in its infancy.



The Mundy Family

(L—R) Art Davey, Gerald Davey, Fanny Davey, Dave Liddell, Anna Liddell, Mr. Mundy, Mrs. Mundy and Dorothy Davey.

For the next few years Anna and I were busy growing up, going to school and helping with work on the farm. After public school Anna spent two winters at Olds School of Agriculture, followed by a year taking a course in Obstetrical Nursing, a course which was to prove beneficial to many mothers in an area miles from a doctor or hospital. By helping at home for a year, and then going to high school for a year, I finally graduated from high school.

By this time the weather pattern had changed, and we found that Loughheed was right in the middle of the dust bowl of Alberta. Summers were without rain, and winters without snow. Cattle were bawling for food and water, and all the time, the wind was blowing and moving the soil from one township to the next and then back again. We used to stuff moist rags and newspapers around the windows in an effort to keep the dust from seeping in, but still we had to wipe the dust from our plates at the table before putting our food on them.

Is it any wonder then, that when Arthur Davey came along, driving a grand (to me) McLaughlin car, and suggesting that he had a better way to make a living, I threw my boots into the back seat and went with him?

Arthur was born in Torquay, Devon, England. He was eighteen when World War One broke out. He enlisted as a driver in the Horse Transports and was sent immediately to France. Except for short "leaves" he did not return to England until 1919. Shortly afterwards he came to the Edmonton area, where he worked on numerous farms, finally getting a job at a garage and blacksmith shop at a little place called Simpson's Corners, about seven miles from my home. We were married in the spring of 1927. He was making the magnanimous sum of twenty-eight dollars per week, plus a little shack in which we lived, and where, the following spring, our little girl, Dorothy Anna, was born.

But still the dust blew. Farmers, always the backbone of the country, became deeper in debt. They sold their cattle, stopped using their cars, or having machinery repaired, so work at the shop became less and less.

Meanwhile, back at Goose Creek, one of our neighbors had been doing some serious thinking. Mr. and Mrs. Garford, and their family, had also come from England in 1912, and settled on a C.P.R. farm. He had learned that land near Evansburg was now available to homesteaders, and wanted to try it. Dad was so discouraged by this time that it did not take much persuasion for him to follow suit. In the fall of 1929, Arthur agreed to drive Dad, Mr. Garford and his eldest son, Frank, to Evansburg, to see the country for themselves. There was no road south from Evansburg, so they came south from Entwistle, crossing the river between Jack Lee's and Louis Lamoureux's. The trail was good, the weather fine, and the old timers friendly. Our men filed on the homesteads which were to be our homes for the next decade. Arthur also had a Soldier's Grant quarter.

My parents and sister came to stay in the spring of 1930. They were fortunate in that Hersh Neighbor, whose homestead adjoined theirs, was not using his cabin at the time, and kindly let the Mundys have the use of it, while they worked at building their own. They brought with them a few good Shorthorn cattle, a number of horses and a good

deal of machinery. This was shipped via C.N.R. to Entwistle station, and transported somehow, over the bush trails and across the river, which was then in flood. My family must have endured untold hardships, but I wasn't with them and have forgotten much of what I was told. However, we must hand it to Dad, who was then sixty years of age, and Mother, not far behind, who remained happy and enthusiastic throughout those early, trying years, determined to succeed, come what may. Anna, Arthur and I had reservations on the subject.

In the fall, Arthur came up again to help Dad with his house, and to cut logs for our own future home. Dorothy and I followed in January, 1931, and settled in Hersh's little cabin. That was a mild winter, with very little snow, or we would have been decidedly chilly. The coal stoves brought from the prairie were not much use in keeping a wood fire going through the night.

Our homestead was ten miles south of Evansburg, right in an elbow of the Pembina River. In fact the river cut off a corner of good timber on the Soldier Grant, so that this could only be reached in winter. Much of the land was still unsurveyed, and the few settlers that were there cut trails through the bush and muskeg to get from one place to another. No one ever went away from home without an axe and a chain to move fallen trees from the trail.

We went to the homestead with little except a few household furnishings, a lot of grit (swallowed during the prairie dust storms) and a Model A. The wife-catching McLaughlin had long since been discarded on the scrap heap. Any car was useless to us, for even if we had been able to get it to the homestead, we never could have bought gas to run it.

However, our friend at the river crossing, Jack Lee, whose home was closer to a more passable road, traded us two cows and a yearling heifer for the car. A friend at the "Corners" had given me a dozen pullets and a rooster, and an old cream separator, so we were all set to begin farming. Dad had plenty of horses for two outfits to begin with.



Turning the virgin sod on Davey's homestead, 1931.

Guy Lamoureux's sawmill was only a few miles away and Arthur spent the early months of 1931 cutting and hauling logs to trade for dried lumber for our house. Dad and Arthur dug the cellar, and then the three of us went ahead with the actual building. I hadn't lived on a farm all my life for nothing. I could measure and saw a board and nail it in place - and do lots of other difficult jobs, too - as well as any man.

The house consisted of two large rooms, built of two-ply boards, with shavings stuffed between for warmth. Much later we added tar paper and siding. The sloped roof was covered with tar paper held in place with slabs, but when it rained, as it often did, the wind managed to blow the rain up underneath, and we often had to move the beds around during the night to keep away from the drips. One evening I was in the barn (this also leaked) milking, when a quick shower came up. Dorothy was alone in the house, busying herself by putting all the cooking pots under the drips.

As soon as possible Arthur began the back-breaking task of clearing the land. Most of the heavy timber had been fire-killed some years before, but the dead logs had to be piled and burned, and the stumps pulled before the land could be broken. He did manage to break a few acres that first spring and broadcast oats for cattle feed. We also planted potatoes and other vegetables.

Arthur also helped other settlers, usually in trade, sometimes a calf, or a couple of little pigs, or a day's clearing, occasionally for cash. Cash was hard to come by in those days when eggs were a dime a dozen, and butter twelve cents a pound, if you were lucky enough to find a buyer.

We had wonderful neighbors. Some years wild game was plentiful. It seemed to be the unwritten law of the land that if one man shot a moose, everybody got a piece of it. Some years wild berries were plentiful. Then I would pick berries frantically until I had filled every available crock and jar against the time when there weren't any.

The cattle herd increased rapidly. It seemed no time before I was milking five or six cows and shipping a can of cream to Edmonton via C.N.R. every week. In those early years C.N. offered a much more accomodating service to all and sundry than it does today. There was also a daily bus service.

At that time the Pembina Coal Mine was still operating full swing. This proved to be a God-send, for during the winter, Arthur cut mine props and ties, and sold them to the mine. Sometimes, Oh, Happy Day, he would be paid in cash! More often, however, he would receive a load of coal, which he would trade for cash, goods, or services.

During the summer the men spent some time improving the roads, and their labour went toward paying the taxes. At last the road became good enough for trucks to come down to haul logs and cattle. It was a great event when we shipped our first load of steers, even though beef was only about three cents a pound on foot. Still, we got enough cash to buy some much needed winter clothing, and a set of harness.

Though we did not get much for our produce, the commodities we could not raise, such as salt, sugar, tea, and the like, were cheap. We always had milk, eggs, meat and vegetables. We were never really hungry, though there were times when I would have liked something a little different from the store.

I think Anna and I missed the telephone, and the companionship of women. Mother did not seem to mind; she was happy with her garden in the summer and with her needle during the winter months. Dorothy, too, never having had other children to play with, was contented with the kittens, little pigs, and calves which were always around. If I could spare the time and the saddle horse was available, I would take her up on the saddle before me, and we would go to my parent's place. Sometimes we would go farther to spend the afternoon with the Garfords. They had several small children, including Myra, who was just Dorothy's age, and the two played beautifully together. About this time, too, Hersh and Eunice Neighbor came back to live on their homestead, and we all spent many pleasant times together.

We were seven miles from the Reno hall, and attended dances there in the winter. Men were admitted for a quarter, and ladies for a cake or sandwiches. Music was provided by Mrs. Garford, who was an accomplished pianist. She was usually accompanied by a little man who hailed from some Eastern European country. I never heard his name. Everybody spoke of him as "the Fiddler". Anyway he certainly knew his music. At Christmas there was always an impromptu program, with treats for the children, and in summer, a picnic.

The settlers from Lougheed had been accustomed to attending Anglican Church Services regularly, and we missed them very much. It was ten years before I saw either a church or a minister. Some fine Sunday evenings we would try to get the chores done early and we would walk down to our parents' place. Mr. and Mrs. Garford would come, too, and with Mrs. Garford at my piano, we would have a good old "hymn-sing".

Almost every quarter was now occupied, so plans were made to organize another school district. Again the settlers worked together, giving generously of their time, talents, and material. I am a bit hazy about the date, but I think the school was built during the early months of World War II. Anyway, it was called "Victory". It was three

miles from our place, and Arthur and our next door neighbor, who had a little girl of school age, cut a trail through the muskeg for the girls.

In winter Arthur usually drove them in the mornings (Mr. Paskaluke had no horses) but they walked home. In the spring they often missed school as the muskeg was not safe for them to walk through. Dorothy was now eleven; but I had had correspondence lessons for her for some time, so she had not missed anything.

All this time Arthur had gradually been beating the bush, and he was now able to plant the grain with Dad's old grain drill, and cut it with the binder. Our first grain was threshed by Archie Robillard's portable engine and separator. This awesome machine lacked a band cutter, so Andy Braaton travelled with the outfit to cut the twine with a hand axe (I think) and stuff the sheaves into the gaping jaws of the separator.

Each year a few more acres were added, but our first three sizable crops were hailed. The first two in July grew again sufficiently to make green feed, but the last one in late August was a total loss. Everything was beaten into the ground and the trees were leafless and broken.

That was the leanest winter I remember, but we lived on hope, and when the wolf came howling at the door, we let him in and he starved to death. After that, things took on a brighter hue. Our little red head, Gerald, came along and decided to stay permanently. This necessitated enlarging our living quarters, so we added a large living room, and two upstairs bedrooms to our original "shack" and built a barn with a huge hay loft.

We were constantly on the lookout for fires, for settlers had to fire their bush in the spring to prevent undergrowth. Sometimes a fire would travel underground through the muskeg and pop out weeks later several miles from where it had started. Three times we had to backfire and fight fire, but only a miraculous change in the wind saved our buildings.



Daveys home - 1931.

In 1941 we sold the farm to A.F. Plewis, who came from across the river, from either the Bloomingdale or Brightwood district. The Plewis family did not stay there very long, and I never learned to whom the farm was sold. But I do know the house was sold and moved away. I did not really want to leave. Through the years I had become a part of it. I hated to see the stock sold to others. I was attached to them all, some were special pets, but I realized that the children would have an opportunity to get a better education.

So my homesteading and pioneering days came to an end. Somehow, as I look back, there was always a robin singing in the rain, we were all poor together and unselfishly helped one another if the need arose. Space does not permit me to tell all the silly, funny little things that happened. We would sit down and have a good laugh before proceeding with the work at hand.

We moved into Evansburg and bought a little house from Cy Bell. Cy had been night operator at the station during the early years, but had been transferred. Arthur went in to war work at Dominion Bridge Co, in Edmonton. He boarded with a very fine old lady, and came home week ends. I became involved in church work and the Red Cross, and so began a new era.

In the spring of 1944 the Pembina River went on a rampage. The water rose to within four inches of the deck of the bridge on the highway between

Evansburg and Entwistle and travellers were advised to use extreme caution when crossing. Back in the homestead country, Dad's buildings were far enough from the river to be safe. However, a creek ran near by. The river backed up into the creek, which overflowed its banks and inundated the surrounding area. Water filled the cellar, spoiling food and other things stored there. The barn was built on higher ground so the animals were relatively safe. Hersh and Eunice had left again; there were no other close neighbors. The bridge crossing the creek was washed out and no one could get in or out. Alice Schaning came to the top of the hill on horseback every day, and they would shout back and forth, so at least she knew how the marooned folk were getting along. Dad was making plans to move bedding and food to the hayloft, on the hayrack, when the flood waters began to go down. Dad slipped in the slime left by the receding waters, fell, and broke three ribs as well as his spirit. Anna, too, having had a heart condition for many years, and labouring at work far beyond her strength, was heartily sick of the whole project. Even Mother seemed to have lost her enthusiasm. Consequently, it was not too difficult to persuade them to sell out. So, the Mundy family moved into Evansburg. They bought a little house from Mrs. Harry Smith, who had been an early settler in the area. It was permitted, at that time, to keep a few animals in town, so Dad brought some chickens. He said he would die if he had nothing to do! Mrs. Smith had some lovely tame raspberry canes in her fine garden spot, so Dad was supremely happy. Mother, too, quickly made new friends and enjoyed life in general. Their farm was sold to Mrs. Lillian Haggar, a sister-in-law of Mr. Hodgkinson.

Anna went to Edmonton to do home nursing. Later she married Dave Liddell, one of the original C.P.R. settlers at Goose Creek, and they moved to a farm near Ponoka. When Mother and Dad could no longer cope with household duties, they went to live with Anna and Dave. Mother passed away in 1954, Dad a year later at the age of eighty-three. Dave died in 1968, and Anna, who had given so many faithful years of service to her family, followed in 1981, at the age of eighty. All are buried



Dorothy Davey, Gerald Davey, with Mrs. and Mrs. Davey.

in the Forest Home Cemetery in Ponoka.

Mr. and Mrs. Garford bought the little Smith house when Mother and Dad left, so there we were, neighbors again!

Arthur continued to work for Dominion Bridge for about ten years. When he came home he bought a small truck and did some hauling for Dowell of Canada and others in the village. Dorothy went to work for La Fleche Bros., Edmonton, where she learned the tailoring trade. Here, also, she met her future husband, Norman White, a veteran of World War II. They were married and lived in and around Edmonton for thirty years. They have four adopted children. Norman later worked in the Prosthetic Dept. at the Colonel Mewburn Hospital. Dorothy had a congenital heart condition which worsened through the years, and doctors advised her to seek a lower altitude. Consequently Norman was transferred to the Shaughnessy Veteran's Hospital in Vancouver, and they moved there in 1980. Gerald chose to be a truck driver. He married Dorothy Horst, who had been brought up and attended school in the Evansburg area. They had five children, most of whom still live around Evansburg.

Having got my children off my hands, I went back to school again! By taking summer courses at the University and correspondence lessons during the winter, I finally got my teacher's certificate and

taught in various schools for the next fifteen years. Arthur and I became interested in the Agricultural Fairs at Wildwood and Darwell. It entailed a lot of work, but we enjoyed it. Arthur won many prizes for garden produce, and I for sewing and cooking.

Arthur passed away in 1966 at the age of seventy-one. We buried him in the soldier's plot in Evansburg Cemetery. After his death I moved to Drayton Valley, where I taught for three years. Now I live in the Senior Citizen's Complex in Drayton. I still give piano lessons, am involved with my church and the Red Cross. I have a very kind and devoted family. Hopefully, by the time this is published, my eighth great-grandchild will have arrived. I also have a host of good friends. Looking back over the years, I think I have lived a rich and rewarding life, and I have no regrets.

Erwin and Elsie Fetzer

by Elsie Fetzer

Erwin Fetzer immigrated to Canada in the fall of 1929 from Stuttgart, Germany. In the same winter he went to work in the bush cutting logs. The following spring he took up a homestead in the Reno district.

In the summer he did some clearing and built a cabin. Also he did land clearing for neighbours and helped them with the breaking.

In the fall he went out harvesting, threshing and hauling bundles with horses and wagon.

He met me, Elsie, (nee Kublik) and we were married in the fall. I milked cows, made our own butter and bread, fed pigs and cut firewood. Erwin went out to cut logs in the winter.

In the spring we cleared some more land by axe and grub hoe, and did the breaking with horses and plow. It was hard work the first few years. Traveling to town was done by horses and wagon or horse-back to get a few supplies.

We have four children Marlene, Ruth, Doris and Ray. They received some of their education in the



The Fetzer family

Reno school. They had to walk two and a half miles. Then they finished their education in the Evansburg school.

In 1955 we sold the homestead to Stan Angerman and bought a farm closer to town.

Marlene married Jack Orchison in July, 1958. They have three children Barbara, Kathrine and Marylou. All live in Gainford. Barbara married Willard Olson in November, 1979. Both work for Spruce Lumber. They have one daughter Theresa who attends school in Seba Beach. Kathrine works at Gainford Hotel. Marylou is still at home.

Ruth married Art Stebner April, 1964. They have two children Carol and Violet attending school in Leduc. They all reside in Leduc.

Doris married Emil Pipke in October, 1960. They have three children Eleanor, Bruce and Nancy. They are residing in Moon Lake District. Eleanor and Bruce are working in Drayton Valley and Nancy attends school in Evansburg.

In May of 1973 Erwin took ill and sold the farm and had a sale. In August of 1973 Erwin passed away.

Ray married Ruth Peden in August of 1981 and resides in Evansburg. Ray works at Manalta Coal at Sundance.

I am residing in Evansburg now.

The Maguires of Reno District

In July, 1934, with the Great Depression well under way and the building and construction work all but stopped in Edmonton, Adam Maguire brought his family out to a homestead in the Reno District, eight miles south of Evansburg.

The first few weeks the family lived in a tent awaiting the finishing of the log house. It was a very busy summer, clearing land for a garden and building other farmyard buildings etc.

Besides Adam and Ida Maguire, there were three boys and three girls.

Bob McGuire worked in trucking. He married Rose Bendel of Hattonford just before going overseas. On his return they lived for many years in Edson. They later moved to Vancouver where he died aged sixty. They have one son, John, living in Kamloops.

Vera Maguire, unmarried, lived at home, and died at the age of fifty-nine.

Etta Maguire married Holding Konigson and lives in Edmonton. They have one daughter, Patricia.

John Maguire was in the Navy and died in the sinking of his ship, the Destroyer Athabaskan.

Bill Maguire also went overseas, and on return he married Berneice Hadley of Styal. They live in Edmonton and have three children, Pat, Wayne and Shauna. There are five grandchildren.

Viola Maguire was only five years old when the family arrived in Reno, so she spent most of her young life there. She married Andrew Garford of Reno. They live in Edmonton and have three sons, Lyle, Bruce and Shane.

Rose Maguire lives in Kamloops, B.C.

During the thirteen years Mr. Maguire lived at Reno, he continued his building trade, having built



Mr. and Mrs. Adam Maguire.



The Maguire Children (Back Row) John, Bill and Bob (Front Row) Etta, Vera & Viola



The Maguire Homestead (Reno)



Reno Old Timers

(L—R) Archie Robillard, George Lee, Adam Maguire, Andy Braatan, Guy Lamoureux.

schools, houses, etc. in the Evansburg, Entwistle and other surrounding areas. Mrs. Maguire died in 1959, and Mr. Maguire in 1974.

Charles and Edith Crossfield

by Mavis Waddell (daughter)

Charles Arthur Crossfield was born in Abbotsford, Quebec, June 16, 1890, tenth child of a family of fourteen children born to Samuel and Katherine Crossfield. Their ancestors had come over from England in the early 1800's. They settled in this beautiful mountain valley and went into mixed farming and apple orchards. Charlie was educated at an agricultural college, specializing in the raising and production of poultry and bees. It was while attending this college that he met and later married my mother, Edith Emily Payne. Edith was born in London, England in July, 1894 to James and Charlotte Payne, the fourth child of a family of six children. She worked in Selfridges, a large department store in London. She came out to Canada with two friends to further her ambitions in the business world.

Dad and Mother moved to Lethbridge where Dad worked at the Alberta Government Experimental Station. Jim was born in March, 1918 and four years later I was born in February, 1922. We moved to Edmonton where Lavona was born in February, 1923. Due to a change in Government many men were laid off work and Dad was one of them. He had to look for a different line of work so tried his hand at carpentry. We then moved to New West-

minster, B.C. where this kind of work was more plentiful. Here Theresa was born in March, 1926 and Bob was born in July, 1929. We came back to Edmonton when Bob was only six weeks old. In 1934 Dad filed on a homestead in the Reno district, thirteen miles south-west of Evansburg.

In June 1934, Dad, Mother, Lavona, Theresa, Bob and myself, set out from Edmonton in Dad's car for our trip to the homestead that was to be our new home. Dad and Jim had made several trips previously, so we were anxious to get started. Just as we were nearing Wabamun the car got a flat tire. Dad got a ride to the nearest station, got the tire fixed and was back in a couple of hours. It seemed much longer for Mother and us children sitting there in the hot sun trying to keep the flies and other insects from biting us too much. Everything went along as well as could be expected as the Edmonton—Jasper Highway at that time was not like it is today. It was not uncommon to see cars stuck during rainy weather and in some places it was very rough travelling. We had turned south of the highway and had gone a short distance when the car got engine trouble and we had to stop. Dad walked to the nearest farm house, which was owned by Mr. Muntz. They hitched up the horses to the wagon and came for us. They took us back to their house and made us supper which we enjoyed very much. Then Orville Muntz offered to



Log cabin

drive us by team to our destination. As it was getting late he stopped at a bachelor's place, the home of Archie Robillard. Archie said we were welcome to stay the night. As Dad had to get back to take the car to a garage and to Edmonton to work the next day he left the next morning. We stayed on at Archie's for about ten days when Dad and Jim came back for us. For this kindness shown to us Mother cooked for Archie and his hired help and cleaned house for him. It was a nice two bedroom bungalow.

We had to walk the distance of about a mile to the homestead, half a mile through Archie's farm and half a mile through what was known as the school quarter, to the border of the south-east corner of our property. Dad had arranged earlier in the spring for Andy Braaten to build us a log cabin. It was made from hewn logs and was about twenty four feet wide and thirty-two feet long. We had chinked moss between the logs and plastered over the moss. Then we varnished the logs. The cabin looked very nice. But until it was completed we lived in a tent. This was quite an experience for us.

That September, Lavona, Theresa and I started going to the Reno school, a distance of four and half miles. But as the weather got cold my parents thought it would be too far for us to walk back and forth each day during the winter months, so they applied to the Correspondence School for lessons. Our parents, who both had good education, were able to help us a great deal in our studies. Each morning from nine to eleven and in the afternoon from one to three we sat around the kitchen table and worked at our books just like we would at a regular school. Our lessons were completed and mailed regularly and the corrected lessons would be back in a couple of weeks usually with good marks.

We also took Sunday School by mail through Premier Aberhart's radio program called the Radio Sunday School Mission. The lessons were beautifully illustrated. I still have some of the pamphlets among my collections.

Dad was president of the local Social Credit Club



Mr. Crossfield with bear hide, his dog Zip and dead calf.

for this district for one term. He was also game warden for several years. Social life was limited but over the years we found the friendship of our neighbors a very important part of our lives. They were always ready to lend a helping hand at any time. Some of the neighbors who couldn't read or write the English language would have Mother make out orders from the Eaton's catalogue for them and write and read letters that they would get through the mail.

I can remember on more than one occasion Mother was called upon to help in time of sickness. Erwin Fetzer came to our place with a very bad hand. While he was grubbing roots part of the root flew back and penetrated his hand. Infection set in and it became very red and swollen. Mother cleaned it with borax and iodine and applied hot compresses to it and in three days he was able to go home. Anna Myschuk asked Mother if she would mind caring for her three children; Jenny (seven), Sophie (five), and Mike (two) while she went to an Edmonton hospital for an appendectomy. They stayed with us for ten days and we enjoyed their company. Money in those days was very scarce. In return they would help Dad with spring seeding or putting up hay whenever he needed extra help.

Dad and Jim worked most of the summer in Edmonton to pay for improvements on the homestead and for the things we needed for the long winter months. Mother always had a big vegetable garden and a lovely flower garden. We enjoyed picking the wild fruit, blueberries, raspberries, saskatoons and cranberries. In the fall Mother preserved over a hundred jars of fruit, vegetables, pickles, jams and jellies besides the jars of chicken and beef and crocks of homemade butter. These were stored in the root cellar that Dad built on the south slope of our garden.

Our homestead had a lot of heavy timber on it. Black bears were known to be in that area. In the spring of 1936, Dad had arranged for us to meet him at Archie's on one of his trips back from Edmonton so that we could help him carry cartons of baby chicks and a hive of bees and other treats that Dad usually brought back for Mother and us children. The roads were too muddy after the spring rains to drive the car any further. We were half way home when we came upon some cattle grazing by the side of the road. By this time it was getting quite dark and we couldn't see too far ahead. There was one animal that wasn't going to let us pass, so I picked up a stick to throw at it when Dad called out for me to drop it. He said, "that's not a cow, that's a bear!" We all turned and ran back to Archie's. We stayed there until it got quite dark then continued on home. About a week later our cow, 'Bossy' was soon to calve. She had been gone for about three days. She finally came home and appeared to be very restless, hungry and thirsty. After she had eaten she went back into the bushes so Dad and Jim followed her, taking their guns with them. They followed her to a clump of woods and found her standing beside her dead calf. Apparently the calf had been born a couple of days previous and the cow was afraid to leave it because of the bear. Dad and Jim took off to look for the bear and had gone only a short distance when they saw it. They both fired a shot and the bear fell to the ground. They skinned the bear and later took the hide to be tanned and made into a rug. It looked very nice on our living room floor and became the topic of many a conversation for some time.

In 1940 Lavona and I went to Edmonton to look for work. Then in 1942 my parents, Theresa and Bob, moved back to Edmonton. In 1947 Dad suffered a severe heart attack and wasn't able to work anymore. Dad bought property at Edmonton Beach and in 1959 he and Mother retired there. They both loved gardening and grew a beautiful vegetable and flower garden in which they enjoyed working. Dad was an ardent fisherman and spent many happy hours fishing in the lake at Edmonton Beach and surrounding lakes. He was a member of the Edmonton Trout Club and entered many of the fishing tournaments. He also loved ice-fishing. He built himself a shelter and would spend many a winter afternoon fishing through the ice in the protection of this shelter. Dad spent his last days living close to nature and doing the things he enjoyed most. He passed away in the Stony Plain Hospital on September 29, 1969 at the age of seventy-nine and is buried in the Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Edmonton.

Jim served in Holland and Italy during World War II with the Princess Patricia Tank Corps. After he came home from the war he lived in Quesnel, B.C. where he had his own door and sash business. He then moved to Yellowknife, N.W.T. where he worked in a gold mine. He bought a farm at High Level where he is now living.

Mavis married Orvil Waddell. He was a partner with Don Brettneil in Roe Construction Company and worked for the Dept. of Highways in the Edson area. He was in a car accident near Leduc in June, 1977 and died nine days later on June twenty-ninth.

He is buried in the Heatherdown cemetery. They have two daughters. Edith married Jim Kennedy, an electrician. They live in Drayton Valley. They have two children, a son Bret and a daughter Linette. Maureen is married to Eddie Gilmore. He has his own tank truck business and works for oil companies. They live in Drayton Valley and have two children, a son Boyd and a daughter Trena.

Lavona married Raleigh Phillips. He has been a barber and hair stylist for the past thirty-five years in Edmonton. They have five children. Lenard is



Lavona, Mrs. Crossfield, Mavis and Theresa on mother's eighty-seventh birthday.

married to Irene Bergman. They both work for the Edmonton City Post Office. They have one daughter, Donna. Kenneth married Marie Mungal. He is in the Canadian Armed Forces and is presently stationed at Dieppe, New Brunswick. He is in the Heavy Equipment Division. They have two daughters, Karen and Kami. Linda married Rolf Meyer. He is a painting supervisor with a Drilling Rig Company and they live in Devon. They have two sons, Norman and Paul. Maureen married Ken Timmerman. He is a carpenter and they live at Abbotsford, B.C. They have two daughters, Erin and Aimee. Ruth married Kevin Hepburn. He works for a Heavy Equipment Company and they live in Edmonton.

Theresa married Ronald Roome. He has his own electrical repair business and they live in Edson. They have two children. Noreen is married to Dale Chorney. He is a custom engineer with I.B.M. Noreen works with Crime Prevention as Co-ordinator with the R.C.M.P. They live in Ardrossan and have two children, a daughter Randalyn and a son Jeffrey. Lawrence has his own electrical business called Larry's Electronics and is a partner in a music shop called Sound Solution. He lives in Edson.

Bob married Mildred George. He is a warden at the Penitentiary at Cardston, Alberta. They have five children. Heather is married to Ronald Krat-chmer. He is a school teacher and has his degree of Bachelor of Education. They have three children, one son John and two daughters Diane and Sara-Joy. They live in Coquitlam, B.C. Robert is an electrical repairman. He has one daughter Michelle and lives at Trail, B.C. Gail married Brandon Blackmore. He is a teacher and they live at Lister, B.C. They have four children, Jonathan, Anna Mae, Ray and Mary. Opal married Bill Harwell. He works for a Pepsi-Cola Company and lives at Boise, Idaho, U.S.A. They have one son William. Bob's youngest son Scot lives at home.

Edith Crossfield is eighty-seven years old and lives with her daughter Mavis Waddell in Drayton Valley. She is no longer able to do the lovely crochet work that she did for so many years and finds reading very difficult because of her failing eyesight. Other than that she keeps well and enjoys shopping up town. She also enjoys the family gatherings with her five children, fourteen grandchildren, and twenty-two great grandchildren.

We believe that we learned much from the eight years we spent on the homestead through the many experiences we went through and are proud to have been a part of this country we chose to live in.



Mr. Crossfield with Jim and Bob at Edmonton Beach.

Sam and Annie Myszychuk

by Sam and Mike Myszychuk

Sam and Annie Myszychuk came from Polish occupied Ukraine in 1930. They were married in 1929 and had been farmers in their homeland but with no work and high taxes, they left the Ukraine along with nine hundred others seeking a new life in Canada. Their boat docked in Halifax on April 21, 1930. They travelled to Vegreville where they had friends and where they worked for one year. Sam then filed on a homestead in the Reno area, twelve miles south west of Evansburg (S.E. 16-51-8-W5th). He lived in a neighboring cabin while he constructed his own two roomed log house. He and Annie worked in the harvest fields around Vegreville and by so doing acquired some possessions to bring to the homestead. He hired a truck in Mundare for twenty five dollars to transport one cow, one calf, two pigs, forty chickens, thirteen sacks of flour, a few sacks of wheat and barley for seed, and a few sacks of chop for the pigs. On reaching the creek west of the Reno School, a forest fire had burned the stringers on the log bridge, and the truck with its heavy load went through the bridge. Sam and Annie had to unload their belongings. Dave Cavanagh came to their rescue and hauled their belongings the rest of the way to the homestead. It took two trips with his horses and wagon.

Their log house was plastered with clay on the inside for the first winter. This was too cold, so next year it was necessary to plaster again both inside and out. Sam built a log barn twenty eight feet by sixteen feet and a granary twenty feet by fourteen feet. To purchase more equipment, it was necessary for him to work out, so every year he went back to the harvest fields around Vegreville. Transportation to and from Vegreville was by freight train. In 1931 two months wages amounted to thirty-six dollars. Returning home from harvesting in 1935, Sam rode the freight as far as Entwistle coal docks. With him he brought a sixteen pound sledge hammer, twenty pounds of rolled oats, twenty pounds of sugar and a chain fourteen feet long. From the coal docks he walked the fourteen miles to his homestead with his earned possessions. Sam cut his own roadway. He cut and raked hay by hand. He



Sam Myszychuk harvesting, 1937.

made his own rake and scythe handles and cradle. Some of these, along with his threshing flail and hand planer, are in the Evansburg Museum. The year 1937 was a very wet year and all the crops had to be cut by hand. Sam cut the neighbor's grain with his cradle, and Mrs. Crossfield and son Jim followed and tied it into bundles. Their closest neighbors were the Prylowskis who had settled there in 1929, and Montevilles who came in 1932.

Sam and Annie had three children born on the homestead, Jennie in 1932, Sophie in 1933 and Mike in 1936. Neighbor women helped with the birth of Jennie and Sophie, but Sam alone delivered his son. He had gone to Evansburg to get the doctor, who refused to come unless Sam paid him twenty-five dollars. Sam admitted he did not even have twenty-five cents, so he went home and took care of his wife and child himself.

In 1939 Sam helped to build the Victory School, along with Dave Cavanagh, the head carpenter. Jennie and Sophie started to school here. Homesteads produced very little income, so it always seemed necessary to work out part of every year. In 1939 Sam went as far as Sinclair Mills near Prince George, B.C. to find work.

In 1942 Sam and Annie abandoned the homestead and moved to the Styal area. They pur-

chased a quarter section N.W. 23-53-8-W5th, for nine hundred dollars from a Trust Company. The quarter had a small cabin and about fifteen acres cleared. Sam purchased a log house for forty dollars from the Government. It was on an abandoned homestead, and with the help of a neighbor he dismantled the house and moved it to his new home site where they reassembled it. He also dismantled the barn and granary that he had built on the homestead numbering every log. Then he hauled them to the new home site and reassembled them.

Sam recalls that at one time on the homestead, he had a job six miles away. He walked to work every morning and back again at night always carrying his twenty two rifle. He shot rabbits and chickens and sometimes even larger game. In an incident near by, some horses had been shot, and the R.C.M.P. came to investigate. Seeing Sam with his gun, they confiscated it and kept it for two years. This was a severe blow to Sam and his family as it meant no meat on the table.

In moving from the homestead, the neighbors with wagons helped Sam and Annie. Mike, at the age of five years, along with Albert Monte aged seven years drove the lead wagon with a load of chickens. The following wagons were delayed because of an accident on Mazeppa's hill. The pole of one wagon had dropped from the neck yoke and dug into the ground, tipping the wagon over the hill. While the men righted the wagon, got it re-loaded and under way again, the two hungry boys awaited their arrival. They noticed a few chickens had laid eggs, so Mike and Albert survived on raw eggs until the rest of the wagon train arrived.

Evansburg and Imrie School were about an equal distance from the Myszychuk farm, so Jennie and Sophie and Mike attended Imrie School for a few years, walking through bush trails with swamp, and muskeg and tall grass always wet in the mornings. Later when Jennie reached high school, the first bus driven by Mr. Kirk of Wildwood, picked up the high school students. Mike and Sophie also started attending school in Evansburg, but by School Division Regulations, elementary students were not

to be picked up. So Jennie rode to school and Sophie and Mike walked. In inclement and cold weather the Greyhound Bus Driver frequently stopped and gave Sophie and Mike a ride into town.

Jenny married Stan Wayne of Edmonton and they raised a family of nine children. Sophie married Neal Headon of Wildwood. They have three children and live in Seattle, Washington. Mike married Angela Liwchyk of Greencourt. They live on the home place with their two children. Mike farms and works for the Alberta Liquor Control Board. Sam and Annie are now retired and live in their home in Evansburg. They celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1979.

Antoni and Jozefa Jwaszko

by Walter Jwaszko

Antoni and Jozefa Jwaszko sold their farm (a few acres) and all their possessions in Poland and came to Canada with their three children: Sofia, nine, Stanley, five, and Walter three, in May of 1930. By this time homesteads were only available in Western and North-western Alberta, as all the better farming areas had already been claimed. They took out a homestead in the Reno area and spent the summer with friends in Gainford while building a one room log cabin in the heavy bushland. This small cabin served as the farm home



Mrs. Jozefa Jwaszko with Stanley, Walter and Sofia before leaving Poland.

for the next eleven or twelve years for six people - John came in August of 1931. Not much elbow room or privacy by today's standards!

Times were very hard those first few years. Land was cleared out of the heavy bush by crosscut saw, axe, grub hoe and the sweat of the whole family. The first five years only yielded about twelve acres. After that we got a couple of horses and things went a bit faster as we didn't have to hire someone to do the land work. To put food on the table, Dad had to work in sawmills (when work was available) in the area. In the fall he made freight train trips to Eastern parts of Alberta on harvesting excursions. Even then it was pretty slim pickings. Garden produce, ground-up wheat for heavy brown bread, rabbits and bush partridge, deer and occasional chicken, butchered hog or steer, was the fare of the day.

We'd always looked forward to the school Christmas concert, because we would get our big treat - a small bag filled with candy, popcorn and a Jap orange.

The district had settlers of almost every nationality, but there were several families of Polish origin within a five to ten mile area. Because of language difficulties, they would visit each other to swap stories and play cards for entertainment during the long winter evenings. On feast days they'd get together for parties to forget the bleak life and the drudgery of work. The nearest neighbor was about three quarters of a mile away. It was two miles to school and five miles to Evansburg, the nearest village. The hikes to school were memorable because of these first few severe winters. We children had many a frostbitten toe, finger, or ear for our efforts. Man, it was cold! The one room school accommodated between twenty and twenty-five pupils, grades one to eight. Grade nine was added for a couple of years in the early 1940's. Primitive as the school was, it had central heating, and on cold winter days, the forty-five gallon gasoline drum converted to a wood heater - in the centre of the back of the room - was almost red hot to take out the overnight chill. The first hour of



Anton and Jozefa Jwaszko with daughter Sofia.



Walter, Stanley and John Jwaszko

classes was held around the heater. It took until afternoon before the ink thawed out for the writing exercises.

With the advent of World War II things gradually improved. As the well managed "captive help" grew up and matured, we acquired another quarter of land and improved the farm buildings. Though not with the modern conveniences of today, they were a far cry from the one room shack with the tarpaper roof. The farm peaked in efficiency in the later forties and early fifties. It then slipped backward as the boys left for greener pastures,

in spite of the fact that all of the arable land was finally cleared off with the aid of modern machinery.

At this time, the only living members of the family are Walter and John living in Edmonton. Sofia died in 1946, Antoni in 1955, Jozefa in 1965 and Stanley in 1979. Stanley left four daughters, all in Edmonton, and John also has four daughters. The old farmstead is still there, but the toil, the poverty, the hardships and the many moments of pleasure in farm life and country camaraderie, are just memories.

John and Anna Miko

by Otto Miko

John Miko and his wife Anna lived in Czechoslovakia before coming to Canada. There he served in World War I from 1914 to 1918. During this time Anna worked in the sugar beet fields - hoeing and weeding. After the war he was employed in sawmills and building bridges.

Times were very hard and so they decided to come to Canada, as a lot of others did, to make a better life for themselves. John came over in 1926. His wife Anna and their children, Anne, Otto and Leo came in 1927.

They settled in the Hay Lakes district and after being hailed and dried out for five years they decided to move to the Reno district in 1932, where they took up a homestead. They had to clear very heavy brush, all done by hand with axe and grubhoe. They built their house of logs with a tarpaper roof. As the roads were just chopped out brush trails they were very bad - almost impassable - especially in summer when it rained.

The nearest post office and grocery store was in Evansburg, which was eight miles from their home. Leo attended Reno school which was three miles away.

John and Anna farmed in the Reno district for eighteen years and then retired to Evansburg in 1950. John passed away December 31, 1962 aged



John Miko, Anna, Otto, John Hagenauer, Anne holding her daughter, Gladys.

seventy-seven. Anna passed away December 6, 1972, aged eighty-five. Both are buried in the Evansburg cemetery.

Son Leo is still farming south of Evansburg. Daughter Anne and son Otto are both living in Edmonton.

Otto Miko Family

by Otto Miko

I came to Canada with my mother, sister Anne and brother Leo in May, 1927. After living five years in the Hay Lakes district, which was very hilly and stony, and being dried out and hailed out, and unable to make payments on the farm, we decided to move to the Reno district and make a home there.

When we moved from Hay Lakes to Reno, one of the most exciting episodes of our moving was chasing our cattle along Whyte Avenue in Edmonton and down across the Low Level Bridge and on to Jasper Avenue and then down a side avenue. My mother and I were each on a horse and my dad and Leo with our belongings drove the team pulling a wagon and hayrack. It rained all the way and the horses had a hard time on the hills. Highway 16 was

just gravel and the wheels cut in to the axle. It took us eight days to move from Hay Lakes to the Reno homestead. Some of the cows had to be tied to the fences overnight. For shelter we had binder canvases over the hay rack. We arrived in Reno on April 23rd, 1932.

After building a twenty by twelve foot one room log shack on my homestead I cancelled it. Then I bought a farm three miles south of Styal in 1934 with nine acres under cultivation. I batched for eight years and in 1942 married Gertrude Ziegler. We farmed until 1970 when we moved to Edmonton in May. We are still living in Edmonton.

We have three daughters. Mrs. Anne Young of Evansburg. Her husband is Alan Young, (Young's Transport). Mrs. Evelyn Krause of Edmonton. Her husband is Gary Krause, (Radiographer for North American Inspection). Melanie Miko, is a Dicta typist for Toronto Dominion Bank in Edmonton. There are four grandchildren: Arlene Young age seventeen, Arron Young age six, Shawn Krause age ten and Carla Krause age eight.

The Kazlauskas Family

Another of the early settlers in the rural area of Evansburg is Mr. Klements Kazlauskas and his family. In 1927, at the age of twenty-eight, after serving five years in the army, Klem came to Edmonton from Lithuania, Russia.

He first worked in the Lamont area clearing land. During the following winter and for a few years after, he worked in different areas of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Klem's first intentions when coming to Canada, were to make his fortune and then return to his birth country. In 1930 he applied for a homestead in the Rocky Rapids area. Deciding against settling, he returned to Edmonton to work in a packing plant. Later he came back to this area with a friend from the plant, looking for land again. His friend settled in the Peers area but Klem, unable to find land, returned to the Edmonton area.

He then went to work for Mr. and Mrs. Nick



Klements Kazlauskas



Mrs. Kazlauskas in her garden.

Chorney in the Lamont area. He had a contract to clear land on their farm. This is where he met his wife, Mildred Chorney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chorney.

With the intention of marrying, he came to the Birch Hills area, south of Evansburg and obtained a quarter of land to homestead. He built his home in 1934 before he married. The progress of his house spread over many months with the construction of one row of logs per day. After the completion of the house, he returned to marry Mildred on February 6, 1935 in a small church in Edmonton.

Klem and Mildred journeyed back to live in the house he had built. Together they made their living farming and running a small logging operation. They suffered through many hardships. In the first year of settlement the two horses they had brought with them were spooked and ran into the trees and were killed.

In March of 1936 they traveled for two days with a team of horses to the University hospital in Edmonton where their first son, Peter was born. In July of the following year their only daughter, Pauline was born.

Fate dealt another blow to the family in 1939. A fire started in their sawmill and destroyed all the lumber.

Their next child Edward was born in October of 1944.

In 1947 Klements bought a half section of land from Mr. Ray Neighbor. This was so the family would be closer to Evansburg and for the children to be closer to school. The farm is located about nine to ten miles from Evansburg in the Reno area.

Their last child Danny was born in July of 1952.

Over the years there were many changes in their style of life. Modernization came to the farm with the buying of a new line of farm equipment in 1948.

Klements and Mildred have four grandchildren. Pauline and her husband Leo Ropcean, have Gerald, born in January of 1965 and Douglas, born in April of 1967. Danny and his wife Lori, have Emelia, born in September of 1976 and Daniel Jr., born in November of 1980.

Peter farms at home and Eddie lives in Evansburg. Mr. Klements Kazlauskas passed away on December 30, 1982.

Memories on the Victory, Reno and Evansburg Side

by Lorraine (Plewis) Collinson

I remember the Pembina River that ran through our property and how we skated on it in winter and swam in it in the summer. Dad and the boys cut blocks of ice from the river. It kept all summer in sawdust in the ice house.

I remember when Einer Opdahl was cutting logs on our property across the river and the day Dad, the boys and Grandpa Kyle were skidding the logs out. I was chasing a rabbit down one of the skid trails. I called to Grandpa "Catch him, Grandpa", and Grandpa scooped the rabbit up. I wouldn't let anyone kill it - I took it up the hill and let it go.,

I had up to four pet lambs to bottle feed (their mothers had died). I took my lambs, their bottles and a milk bucket and went picking blueberries.

I would check the pastures to see if any sheep with new born lambs were still out somewhere. Once I found triplet lambs just born. I packed two of them a distance and called to the mother "Baaaaa". When she came I went back to pick up the other lamb and grab one of the others as I passed. Then I put them down and "baaaaa" again. I did this until I finally got them home.

I packed a 303 rifle to check the sheep. We would lose several to coyotes each year. Coyote pups would come out and play in the fields when Jack was tilling the soil. But when he turned the tractor off, they would disappear into the bush. Then Jack came to the house to get me and we rode the tractor out. I shot one from the tractor.

I once was chased by the ram. I did not get over the fence in time. My leg was so bruised. I did what my Dad said to teach him a lesson. I carried the crowbar at my side so he couldn't see it and when he charged me, I caught him across the nose as hard as I could hit. I really thought he would die from the nose bleed. He never charged again.

I helped to shear the sheep. Gram Plewis took us

four children with her and the wool, to wash it in the river. Then she could spin yarn.

We had three tractors. The three boys were able to do all the repairs on them. They all did their share of the work.

Dorothy Davey spent her summers at her grandparents (the Mundys) to help them. She was also at our place a great deal helping us. The boys called her "Skinny Doogan" or "Spike."

Mother made jars and jars of home canned jams, fruits and meats. We ate wild deer, moose or elk that our father had killed, and also the stewed prairie chicken the boys had shot. We ate a combination of small potatoes, baby carrots and peas that mother cooked with a cream sauce. We picked buckets of dandelions and my parents made dandelion wine in a huge crock.

The vegetables kept all winter in dirt cellars below the house.

When we milked the cows we lined the cats and kittens up and squirted milk at their wide open mouths. We caught h--- from my father for doing this.

We rode "Nancy" a "blood quarter-horse" with just a rope around her neck and no saddle. Sometimes she swam across the river to look for the cattle. As my mother would say, "that horse could fly like the wind with us kids on her back."

I remember holding my hand under a hen waiting for her to lay an egg and then squeezing it before it hardened.

We watched our father butcher livestock but were never able to watch the killing of an animal.

Once I held a chicken that Dad was about to chop the head off. I yanked it out of the way just in time and let it go.

We had a closed in cutter with just an opening at front so you could see and drive. There was a side



September 1944 - (L—R) Dorothy Davey, Glenn Plewis, Lorraine Plewis, Erwin Plewis, Jack Plewis.



(L—R) Erwin Plewis, Rosie Pajak, Jenny Janisheski, Lorraine Plewis, Stanley Jwaszko

door to get in and out of. We took heated rocks with us to keep our feet warm and blankets that we used to cover us and the horses in winter.

I remember our dear neighbors, the Mundys, and their daughter, Anna. Mother and I visited Anna in 1974.

A very dear friend Dorothy (Davey) White passed away in May, 1982. The Mundys, were her grandparents.

Someday, hopefully soon, I would like for my husband and son to see the Entwistle - Evansburg area. I'm sure there are many great changes.

John and Stefanija Antkow

by Judy Antkow

John Antkow was born in Russia in 1888. In 1913 he left his homeland to arrive in New York City. From there he travelled to Toronto and westward, working at various jobs.

He took up a homestead around Boyle, but found the land so rocky he moved on. In 1930 he arrived in the Evansburg area and took up a homestead twelve miles south of town. The land was more suitable, so John built a log house and prepared to settle down.

In 1931 John met and married Stefanija Masztalir. Stefanija was born in 1904. She arrived in 1930 from the Ukraine and was staying at Carvel.

Many hardships were endured during the years spent on this homestead. Land had to be cleared by hand. John had to leave his family many times to find jobs on harvest crews, sometimes as far away as Saskatchewan. During these years seven children were born; Mike, Ann, Yorosh, Walter, Peter, Tessie and Sam.

In 1943, Stefanija was left with the youngest child, then only a few months old, while John went to work on the Alaska Highway, on extra gangs and various other jobs. During this time he was able to save eleven hundred dollars to buy land from Mr. Douglas, four and one half miles south of town.

There were no suitable buildings here, so the land was rented out. The family stayed on the homestead until temporary living quarters and other buildings were constructed. The log house was taken apart and reconstructed on the new farm, but now used for storage. A good portion still remains here today. After the move in 1946, things improved. John was able to buy a tractor and other pieces of equipment. He also built a proper house.

In 1968, John and Stefanija moved into Evansburg, leaving their youngest son, Sam, to continue



Mr. and Mrs. John Antkow

farming. John passed away in 1973 at the age of eighty-five. Stefanija still resides in her home in town.

John and Stefanija had seven children.

Mike left home in 1952 to work for C.N. Telecommunications in various parts of Canada. At present he is married and working for C.N. Telecommunications in Edmonton.

Ann married Gerald Stanton and is living in Fort St. John, B.C. They have three children, Derald, Randy and Sandra.

Yorosh is presently living in Evansburg and engaged in carpentry. He also has experience as a cat operator.

Walter married Shirley Millis in 1963. In 1965 an oil rig accident took his life, three months before his son, Donald, was born. Donald is presently living in Kamloops, B.C.

Peter left home in 1956 to find work. At present he is working for the County of Parkland in Stony Plain.

Tessie married John Cherniwchan, who was from

Bellis. They have two children, Richard and Brenda. In 1974, John and Tessie formed River Valley Trucking and Contracting Ltd., which they operated until 1979. They sold to Iver Layden. John passed away in 1980. Tessie still lives in Evansburg and is employed by McMurray Bakery. Richard has completed his Bachelor of Education degree and is employed by the Yellowhead School Division. Brenda is a psychiatric nurse at Alberta Hospital, and lives in Edmonton.

Sam married Judy Matwie, who was from the Styal area. They have three children, Pamela, Trevor and Treena. They are presently grain and cattle farming south of Evansburg.

Bruce MacKinnon

I was born in Earnscliffe, Prince Edward Island, May 1914. My parents were Mr. and Mrs. John MacKinnon. I left home when I was sixteen and worked for lobster fishermen and farmers for a few years. The wages were fifteen and twenty dollars per month.

Homer Matheson and I came west to Alberta in August, 1943. It cost us over eighty dollars each by train from Charlottetown to Edmonton. We came to Entwistle. We got a ride to Violet Grove the next day with Mr. Bill Clark who delivered the mail to Drayton Valley and Violet Grove.

The next morning we walked the six miles to Homer's brother's home. He had taken up a homestead a few years before. His name was Jack; he and his brothers-in-law used to build a raft on the Saskatchewan River and go all the way to Edmonton to do their business once a year. Mr. Bill Robinson from Entwistle had a big saw mill south of Violet Grove. Homer and I got a job with him cutting logs. The mill was run with a big steamer.

Later that winter the sawmill was moved twenty-three miles south of Niton as Mr. Robinson had a contract to log and saw railway ties. We cut tie logs there till spring break up. That summer we took a job with Joe Young of Evansburg who had a job sawing coal door lumber. After the first of May a



(L—R) Bruce MacKinnon, George Tenzer and J.D. Smith.

bush fire broke out near Mr. Young's winter lumber camp. He had two hundred thousand feet of lumber dry-piled at the mill. They took all the men across the Bigoray River to fight the fire. We fought fire for two weeks. One afternoon about the middle of May it started to snow. I said to the men, "We had better go into camp." The next morning there was two feet of snow. We started to walk out that day. It was awful through the deep snow. We were across the Bigoray River when we heard a cat coming. Mr. Young sent his cat and a big stoneboat to bring us home. His summer camp was on Hans Braaten's quarter. We had a hearty supper that night and stayed until harvest.

Then one fellow bought an old Chevrolet car and three of us took off for Irma and Mannville country. We stooked grain (mostly wheat) by the acre and stayed threshing for the rest of the fall. They were binding mostly with horses. The next fall I went harvesting by myself and made six hundred dollars.

I came back to Entwistle and went to work south of Evansburg for Mr. Bob Hoople and Earl Brooks who had a logging camp sixteen miles south west of Evansburg. I worked there all winter and made six hundred dollars that winter. John Strolis worked there too. He had a homestead at Birch Hill. He sold me his homestead that spring for eight hundred dollars; my first farm! I got some machinery and one young horse with the homestead. In the spring I bought a team from Earl Brooks and plowed some



Bruce MacKinnon's homestead.

land and planted wheat. After harvest I went to Granada to work at Swanson's planing mill.

There were quite a few prisoners-of-war working there. Then one night they were shipped out on a train at midnight. They came around to us to sell us gloves and work clothes they didn't need. They didn't want to leave, they liked it here. They were real nice young fellows. They said they were coming back when they could.

Albert and Colleen Lalonde

On July 1, 1961, Albert and Colleen Lalonde and their seven children arrived from Victoria, B.C. and settled on the Mundy farm which was located ten miles south on the Reno road. They bought the farm from Lillian Hagar of Victoria who bought it from the Mundy's eighteen years previously. In 1964, a daughter was born. In 1968, the Lalonde's moved to the Fred Hanson farm on Highway 22 at Brightwood. In 1973, they moved to the Lloyd Leyden place in Entwistle where they are operating an auto body shop and twenty-four hour towing business.

Three of the children married into local families. Wilfred married Thea Holosney of Gainford and they have one daughter. They reside in Edmonton. Cathy married Dewey Drewes of Moon Lake and they have five children. They live in Sherwood Park. Kerry married Cynthia Jones of Lake Isle. They reside on the Jones family farm with their six-year old twins. David, Danny and Kevin live on Vancouver Island with their families. Michael lives on the old Nelson farm at the corner of the Reno road and highway 16. Bonnette has graduated and is working at the body shop in Entwistle.



Christmas at Neighbors, 1922

Not To Be Forgotten

The following is a list of former residents for whom, for various reasons, we have been unable to obtain a family history. Some may have been missed and for this we apologize.

The Committee

Peter Abbot

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Abbot came to the Reno District after WWII. Pete had served overseas and was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion in Evansburg. They lived with their family on the Reno Road on the NE¼ 1-52-8-W5th M. Among other things, Pete worked for the Golden Moss Farms. He is now deceased.

J. O. Baaken

J. O. 'Ole' Baaken came to Reno in 1928. He lived on the NE 25-52-8-W5th M. He married Ellen Fix and worked in Birtle's Garage in Evansburg. Ole served during the war in the Navy and received a citation.

Wm. L. Baptie

Mr. and Mrs. Baptie came to live in the Reno District in 1932, homesteading the NE¼ 13-52-8-W5th M. He was a carpenter and believed in buildings big and strong. The large barn that he built was used for dances prior to the building of the Reno Hall.

Alexander Belinsky

Alex and Mrs. Belinsky homesteaded in the Reno District in 1929. They lived on the NW 2-52-8-W5th M. Later they moved to Edmonton where they operated a market garden.

Andrew and Hans Braaten

Andy and Hans Braaten lived on the SW¼ 23-52-8-W5th M. Andy came to Reno District in 1932. He was a shoemaker by trade and later opened a shoe repair shop in Entwistle. Hans farmed but had the misfortune of losing a leg in a farming accident. He now resides in Drayton Valley.

John Brandt

John Brandt was one of the long time residents of the Reno District. He filed on a homestead in 1912 and passed away there in 1941. He lived on SE¼ 36-52-8-W5th M.

Wilbur Bryson

Mr. and Mrs. Bryson lived in the Reno District in 1914. Mrs. Bryson followed her brother Hank Hermanrude to the area. In 1923 they left for California.

George Cory

Mr. and Mrs. Cory came to the Reno District in 1911.

Malcolm Cressman

Malcolm Cressman came to Reno in 1935. He served overseas in W.W. II and married a Scottish girl. On leaving Reno they ran a shoe store in Edson, later moving to Vancouver where he passed away.

Arthur Fetzer

Arthur Fetzer was a bachelor who came to the Reno District in 1929. He lived on the S.E. 34-52-8-W5th M. He later bought property in Evansburg and now farms in the Holly Springs area.

Francis John Garford

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Garford came to the Reno District in 1929. They lived on the NW¼ 52-8-W5th M. Mrs. Garford was a pianist and played for many of the local dances. Their sons Frank and Gordon served overseas in WWII.

Charles Gibbons

Charley Gibbons was one of the early settlers in Reno. He came in 1915 and lived on the NW¼ 24-52-8-W5th M.

Bert Harmon

Bert Harmon came to Reno in 1913. He lived on the NE of 24-52-8-W5th M. He welcomed and gave assistance to all new settlers in the district.

Peter Janewski

Peter Janewski came to the district and worked on the railroad. In 1927 he married Elsie Just. They had one daughter Eunice and two sons, Bill and Herb. Pete worked for the railway for forty-three years. He passed away in Calgary in 1980.

Emil Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Johnson were early settlers in Reno. They came with their two daughters in 1914. They homesteaded the SW 25-52-8-W5thM.

Frank Kane

Frank Kane came to live in the Reno District in 1915. He aided many homesteaders who came later.

Harry and Minnie Lehman

Harry and Minnie Lehman came to the Reno area in 1926. They lived on the NE¼ 15-52-8-W5th M.

Paskuluks

Paskuluks came to the Reno District in the early 1930s. Their son Walter attended Reno School.

Regotos

Regotos came to the Reno District in the early 1930s. Their three children Joe, Tilly and Kasmir attended Reno School. Joe served overseas in the Second World War and was killed in action in Italy.

Archibald Robillard

In 1922 Frenchie Robillard came to the Reno District. He homesteaded the NE 15-52-8-W5th M. His large house was often the site of parties and dances in the early days. He had one of the first threshing machines and made the rounds every fall threshing for his neighbors. In later years he moved to Evansburg where he passed away.



Archie Robillard threshing in 1936.

Ignacy Rycerz

Mr. and Mrs. Rycerz lived in the Reno District on the NW 31-52-8-W5th M. They farmed here and then moved north of Evansburg on the Lobstick River. They spent their last days in the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Stony Plain.

J. D. Smith

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Smith came from Frank, Alberta to live on the N.E. 23-52-8-W5th. J.D. was a pensioner having served in WWI. Mrs. Smith had been a midwife in Scotland and was frequently called to go to isolated homes.



Ignas Svirplys house built 1930

Ignas Svirplys

Ignas Svirplys was a bachelor who lived on S.E. 18-52-8-W5th M. from 1934 to 1979.

Frank Tomkavicus

Frank Tomkavicus was a bachelor who lived on N.E. 7-52-8-W5th M from 1934 to 1979.

John Washak

John Washak came from Poland. He lived on the S.E. 12-52-8-W5th M. and worked on the railroad.

John Wasko

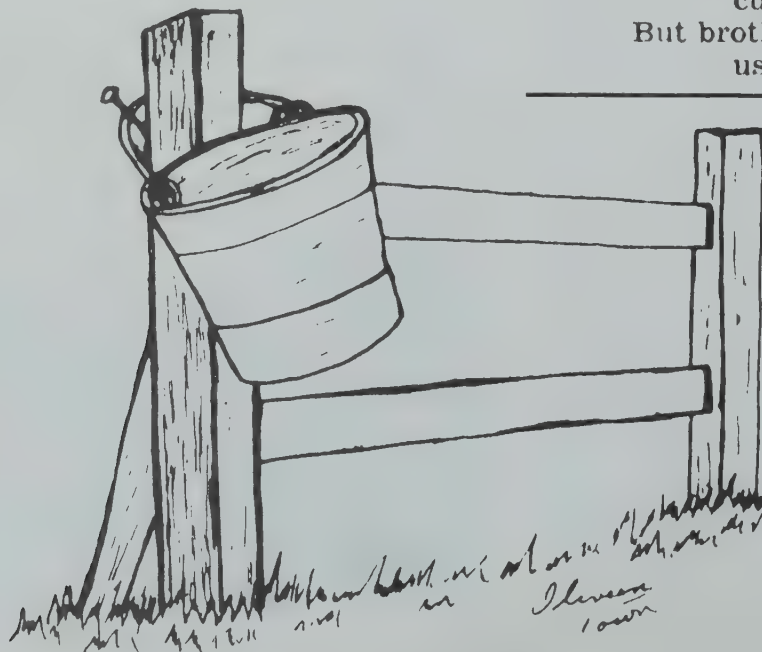
John Wasko came to the Reno Area in 1931 and lived on the N.W. 10-52-8-W5th M.

Wurms

Mr. and Mrs. Wurm and their family of four lived on the Pembina River south of the Lamoureux quarter. Albert Wurm married Dolly Douglas.

Yoweks

Mr. and Mrs. Yowek came to the Reno District in the early 1930s. They lived east of the hall on the N.W. 19-52-8-W5th M. Johnny and Sophie Yowek attended Reno School. Later Johnny married Isobel Hermanrude.



The Monkey's Viewpoint

Sir--

Three monkeys sat in a coconut tree

Discussing things as they're said to be.

Said one to the others, "Now listen you two,

There's a certain rumor that can't be true,

That man descended from our noble race

The very idea! It's a dire disgrace. No monkey ever deserted his wife, Starved her baby and ruined her life.

And you've never known a mother monk

To leave her baby with others to bunk,

Or pass them on from one to another

'Til they hardly know who is their mother.

And another thing! You will never see

A monk build a fence 'round a coconut tree

And let the coconuts go to waste Forbidding all other monks a taste.

Why if I put a fence around this tree

Starvation would force you to steal from me.

Here's another thing a monk won't do,

Go out at night and get on a stew Or use a gun or club or knife

To take some other monkey's life. Yes! Man descended, the ornery

cuss,

But brother, he didn't descend from us." Mrs. Evolution.

PART IV
SERVICEMEN

TO HONOR THOSE WHO SERVED



Dedication To Servicemen

There is no gauge that can accurately measure the cost to your own lives, or the extent to which your years of service to our country was responsible for the "good life" we have been privileged to enjoy. This section of Foley trail is dedicated to you, in appreciation of the magnitude of your contribution and sacrifice.

In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place;
And in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead.
Short days ago we lived.
Felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved,
And now we lie,
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hand we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep,
though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

They Grow Not Old

*"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them"*

Laurence Binyon

BOER WAR

1899 - 1902



Jock Mitchell, Boer War

Boer War Veterans

(No Photo Available)

Armour, Robert

Bates, Jack

Greaves, John



Jack Bates, Military Funeral in Evansburg

WORLD WAR I

1914 - 1918



C.F. Anderson



Joseph Anderson



William J. Barwise



Allan Bigland



Glenn E. Clarke



Stanley T. Dollman



Colin Dyble



John Greaves



Chesel Hadley



Roy H. Hadley



Fred Harris



Harry Harris



Henry (Hank) Hermanrude



Dick Kidner at Hospital Camp



Jas. Lumley



Benjamin MacDiarmid



Duncan (Standing) and
Colin MacDiarmid



Donald MacRae
(No W.W.I photo available)



Chris McKillop



Paul Ohl



J. D. Smith



John Henderson Smith



Jack Starling



J. D. Stewart



Josiah Stewart



Malcolm Sullivan



Chas. Taylor
(No W.W.I photo available)



George Want



Stanley Welwood

World War I Veterans

(No Photo Available)

Alberg, William
Barrett, Anthony
Bryant, Arthur
Blair, Roy
Clack, W. R.
Clark, Robert
Chandler, H. C.
Cherrington, William
Chisholm, Dr. A. F.
Clark, Pete
Close, C. W.
Cratchley, Walter
Copeland, Fred
Davey, Arthur
Davis, Edward
Delorey, William
Duncan, A.
Farley, Thos.
Greaves, Harry
Herwig, George
Hopkins, William
James, Frank
Kennedy, William
Kleofas, Karl
MacDiarmid, James
McCormick, J. W. R.
McKecknie, Malcolm
Morgan, Willis
Patterson, Claude

Patterson, Pat
Pembleton, George
Phillips, Ed
Reid, Edward
Reid, James
Reid, James M.
Richards, Robert
Roberts, Oscar
Russell, Leonard
Ryan, Reginald
Saunders, Frederick
Seacoy, John
Smith, W. C.
Spinks, Walter
Theobald, Ernest
Thompson, W. N.
Townsend, Cecil
Tudge, H.
Tyack, Wm.
Ward, Pat
Vivian, Leslie
Welsh, Chas.
Welwood, John
Whelan, F.
Wiseman, W. D.
Wright, Alfred
Young, Percy
Young, Robert

WORLD WAR II

1939 - 1945



N.F. Babcock



David Balfour



Jack Balfour



Jim Bigland



John Bills



Ernie and Carl Bjornstad



Ivan Boles



Burton Brooks



Oliver Brooks



Jack Brown



Ivan Brown



Merle Bruner



Tom Buckley



Walter Burian



Gordon Campbell



Mark Chechotko



Bill Cherrington



Fred Cherrington



George Thomas Cherrington



Eion A. Chisholm



Margaret Chisholm



Woodrow Conley



Malcolm Cressman



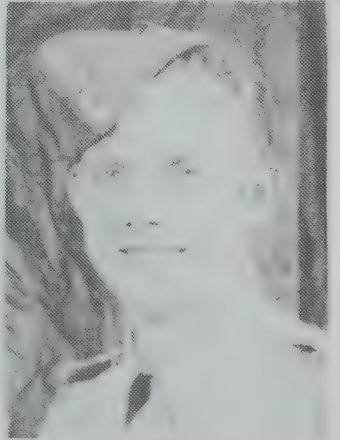
Fred Croft



Jim Crossfield



Chester Court



George Court



Charley Couves



Frank Couves



Jack Delorey



James Dollman



Vernon Edmonds



Eric & Aubrey Elliott



Charles Elsie



Fred Fausak



Ivan Feldberg



Allison Forbes



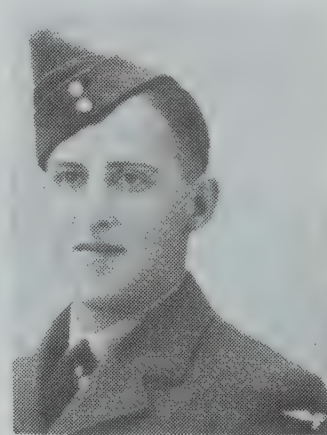
Wendell Forbes



Leonard Block, Bill Fry and Sidney Fry



Elsie Galpin



Jack Galpin



Frank and Gordon Garford



Bill Goodwin



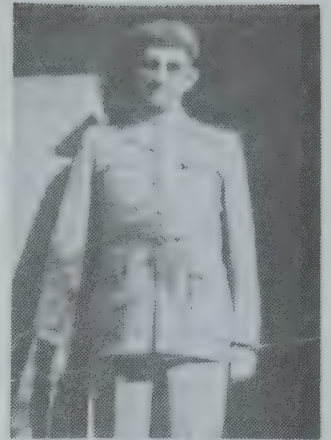
Ike Grant



Harry Thomas Greaves



Bett and Edward Greenwood



J. Grolman



Garth M. Hadley



Floyd A. Hadley



C. Roy Hadley



Ralph Hadley



Bryan Hamar



Florence Hamar



Geoff Hampton



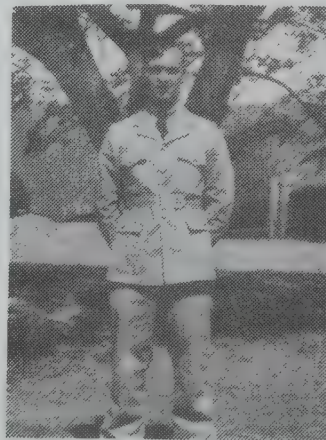
Bill Hebditch



Olaf Hermanrude



William Hermanrude



Max Herzog



John Hodgkinson



Maxwell Hood



Mike Hotra



Aleck Hutchinson



Julia and Roger Kimball



Mike Konkolus



Art Langer



Emil Langer



Gib Ladouceur



Clarence Laws



Fred Ledinski



Gene Lefevre



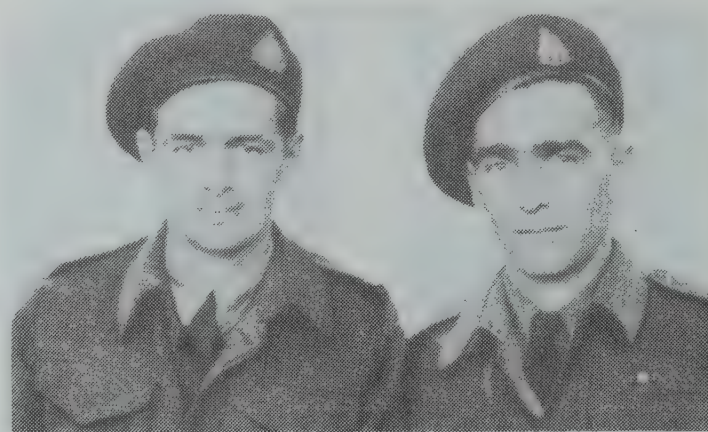
Alfred Lewis



Ward Lamoureux



Richard MacRae



Bill and Bob Maguire



John Maguire



Steve Mazeppa



Art Melvin



Harry Melvin



Norman Melvin



Clifford Melvin



Fred Melvin



Carl Miller



Robert McCracken



Wesley McCracken



Kenneth McCormick



Jesse McCormick



Bud McGowan



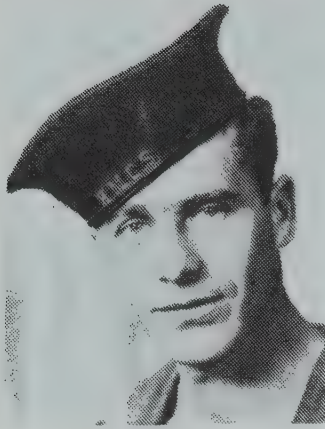
Frank McGowan



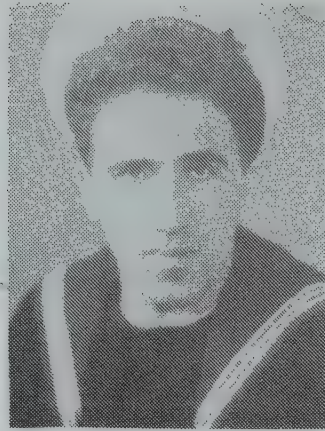
Howard Miners



Bob Muldoon



Frank Muldoon



Jack Muldoon



Jim Muldoon



Smokey Neighbor



A. J. Nelson



Bob Nesbitt



Edward Osborne



Fill Osborne



M. F. Olsson



Bill Otto



Alex Pajak



Walter Pajak



Bob Palmer



Bob Purcell



Harold Raypold



Louise Relling



Fred Richards



Alex Roffey



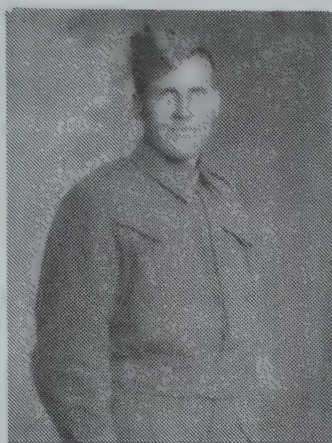
Carl Schroder



William Schroder



Evan Seedhouse



Frank Smith



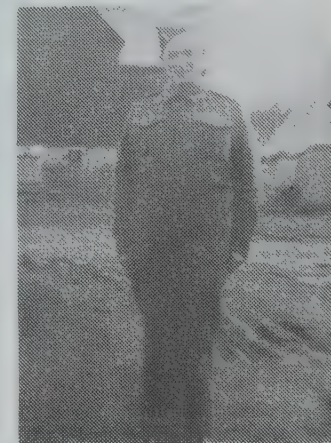
Ross Smith



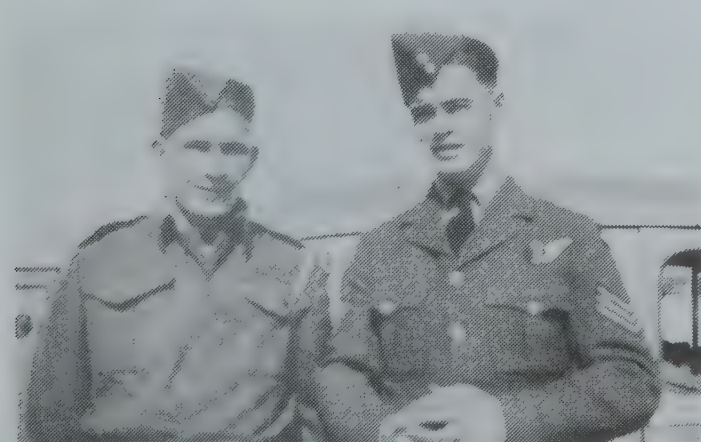
William J. Smith



Edward, Leo, Raymond, Theodore and Barbara Strauss



Joe Stewart



Tom and Pat Sullivan



Richie Sylvester



Dan Town



Lawrence Town



Pat Town



Bob Tuke



K. G. E. Wade



Allen Walker



Brenda (Harris) Walker



Arnold Webber



Lloyd Webber



Donovan & Edwin Welwood



Howard Welwood



Kasper Winteler



Art Wolff



Otto Wolff



Doug Young



Janet Young



Evansburg Service Men - Nov. 11, 1947

(L—R) Tom Buckley, Bob Muldoon, Carl Bjornstad, Ernie Bjornstad, Hank McGowan, Merle Bruner, Ken Froland, Ward Lamoureux, Buck Lamoureux and Bill Otto



Parade in Entwistle 1945 Bill Delorey leading



Route March



Army Barracks

World War II Veterans

(No Photo Available)

Angerman, Stanley J.
Bennett, W.
Berg, A. F.
Bernier, Phil
Blair, Ray, E.
Boles, E.
Boulton, Curly
Braaten, Hans
Bratland, G.
Broughton, Harry
Buckley, J. W.
Campbell, James
Catt, Donald
Cavanagh, Donald
Chatterton, A.
Clark, Pete
Copeland, Edwin
Cory, W.
Davis, Cap
Davidson, George
Davy, B. E.
Doucette, H.
Douglas, Donald
Drongal, A.
Dunnigan, H.
Elsie, Harold
Embree, Douglas
Feldberg, Lorenz
Feldberg, Melvin
Foreman, C. H.
Fraser, P.
Froland, Kenneth
Froland, Walter
Gardiner, George
Greaves, John
Gough, Fred

Harboway, A.
Harke, Richard
Henrault, R.
Hogg, W. F.
Hood, Cameron
Hoople, Kenneth
Jeffrey, Chas.
Keen, Dennis
Koplen, E.
Kristiansen, Otto
Ladouceur, W.
Lamond, James
Lamoureux, S. J.
Lamoureux, W. L.
Paslaluk, Walter
MacPhee, D. P.
Marshall, Chris
Marshall, Frank
Matheson, James
McCormick, Jack
MacRae, Dan
McLean, Don
McLean, Neil
McMurchy, George
Macphee, C. H.
Melling, Dr. Thos.
Melnychuk, Fred
Miko, Leo
Mullen, George
Munroe, L.
Narroway, M.
Olson, Andy
Olson, Maynard
Olson, Norman
Ostertag, Micky

Parry, N.
Radcliffe, E. E.
Regoto, Joe
Relling, John
Relling, Mary
Relling, William
Rhein, Herbert
Ripley, Harold
Rogan, James
Rogan, John
Rogan, Mickey
Schaning, Otto
Schaning, Walter
Seedhouse, Edgar
Sigouin, Louie
Sigouin, Ted
Starling, Ted
Steele, Roy
Strickland, A.
Stroshin, Ed
Sullivan, Leo
Taylor, Chas.
Taylor, Jack
Taylot, Martin
Tenzer, Frank
Thompson, Jack
Thompson, T. B.
Turner, E.
Tuttle, Ed
Watson, Guy
Waunch, John
Woloszyn, Wm.
Wurm, L.
Zaverucka, Harry
Zaverucka, Mike

KOREAN WAR

1950 - 1953



Ernie Bjornstad



John Horboway



Ted McGowan

PEACE — TIME CORPS



Darold Hale



Lee Roffey



Stan McGowan

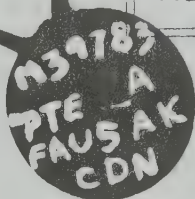
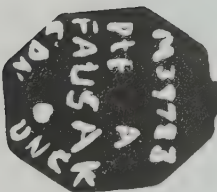
Peace Time Corps

(No Photo Available)

*Hermanrude, Harold
McGowan, Bud
Wade, Robert K.
Wasyliw, Orest*

Legion

Memorabilia



CANADIAN ARMY (ACTIVE) DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE

M.F.M. 7 (LINKS)
60-01-345 (0051)
11.Q. 177249-1023

This is to Certify that No. M.5131 (Rank) Corporal
 Name (in full) Cecil Roy HADLEY enlisted XXXX
~~enlisted~~ in the 13th Fd. Coy R.C.E.
 the **CANADIAN ARMY (ACTIVE)** at CALGARY, Alberta on the Twelfth
 day of September 1939.
 He served in Canada UNITED KINGDOM & CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN AREA - - -
CONTINENTAL EUROPE
 and is now discharged from the service under Routine Order 1029 (5-a-1) by reason of
To return to civil life on demobilization.
 Medals, Decorations, Mentions, CANADIAN VOLUNTEER SERVICE MEDAL & CLASP
 awarded in respect of service during this war
 THE DESCRIPTION OF THIS SOLDIER on the DATE below is as follows:—
 Age 30 Years Marks or Scars Red birthmark over
 Height 6' left scapula
 Complexion Medium
 Eyes Blue Other Active Army Service (This War)
 Hair Brown
 Signature of Soldier C. H. Hadley Nil.
 Date of Discharge NO. 13 DISTRICT DEPOT C.A.
DISCHARGE
OR FIDELITY NO. 13
JUL 31 1945 THE ARMOURY Calgary, Alberta. Issuing Officer, Col. J. P. Littleton Commanding,
No. 13 District Depot C.A.
 Rank Date JUL 31 1945 19

N.B.— As no duplicate of this Certificate will be issued, any person finding same is requested to forward it in an unstamped envelope to the Director of Records (Army), Department of National Defence, Ottawa, Canada.



PART V

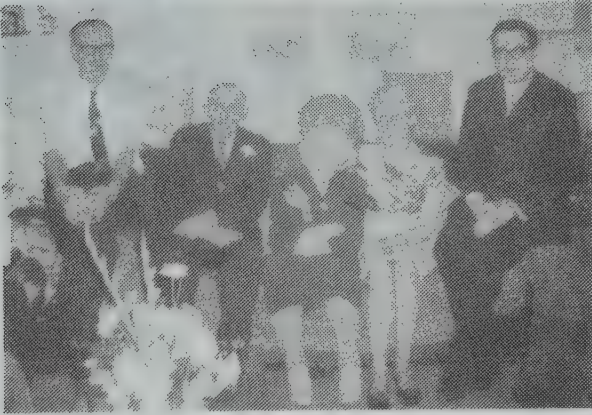
ANNIVERSARIES

-Golden

-Diamond

-Diamond Plus

GOLDEN WEDDINGS



John and Clara Bjornstad on their 50th Anniversary with Sid Watson, Don Watson, and Hilda Watson (Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bjornstad) 1966.



William and Dora Blahun on their 50th Wedding Anniversary 1981.



George and Pauline Bullock 50th Anniversary 1981.



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cherrington on their golden Wedding Anniversary with children Fay, Vera, Leslie and Gary. Mr. Cherrington's sister in wheel chair. 1975.



Mr. and Mrs. George Cherrington on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Jean and Bill Cherrington 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Mr. and Mrs. Alex Collins on their 50th Anniversary.



Jim and Bell Delano at their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dewald on their 50th Wedding Anniversary with Richard, Ken, Bill, John, Helen, Henry, Irene, Lucille, 1975.



Mr. and Mrs. Elliott on their 50th Anniversary. 1963.



Mr. and Mrs. D. Farrell on their 50th Wedding Anniversary 1981.



Mary and Steve Horboway on their 50th Wedding Anniversary 1981.



Golden Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Entwistle.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fausak on their 50th Wedding Anniversary 1968.



Oscar and Hazel Hale 50th Anniversary 1955.



Fred and Alma Harris on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Mr. and Mrs. Leo Jensen on their Golden Wedding.



Earl and Marie Jones on their 50th Anniversary 1966.



Fred and Maria Kos on their 50th Anniversary 1973.



Mr. and Mrs. John Kasianiuk on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Dan and Ella MacRae on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Mr. and Mrs. Frank Maddock Golden Anniversary 1976.



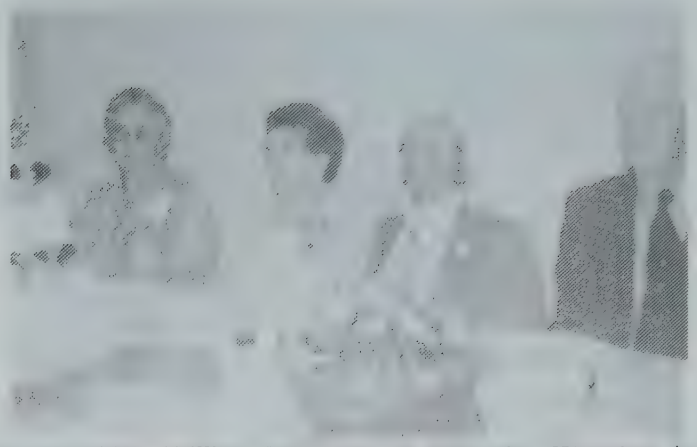
William and Lucillia Mark on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Mr. and Mrs. Maruska Golden Wedding.



Chris and Catherine McKillop at their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Mr. and Mrs. William Mazeppa on their 50th Wedding Anniversary, 1980.



Sam and Annie Myszuk on their 50th Wedding Anniversary 1979.



Golden Wedding of John and Titania Ohnysty Oct. 1982. Jim, Marie, Teresa, Renee. Mrs. Ohnysty, Mr. Ohnysty, Alice and John. Dean, Darren and Bryan.



Mr. and Mrs. Tom Purcell on their 50th Wedding Anniversary with daughters Joan and Marion.



Mr. and Mrs. John Paulduro 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Willie and Freida Saxer on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Mr. and Mrs. James Scandrett Golden Wedding 1959.



Bill and Cassie Seefeldt on their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1969 with daughter Viola.



Mr. and Mrs. Gideon Scott Golden Wedding.



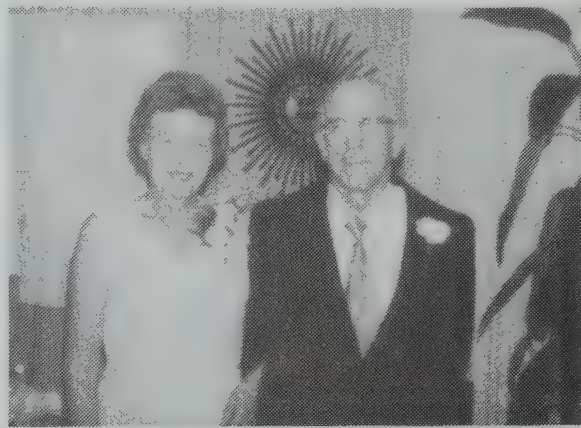
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Storms Golden Wedding.



Mr. and Mrs. Jay Town, Sr. on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



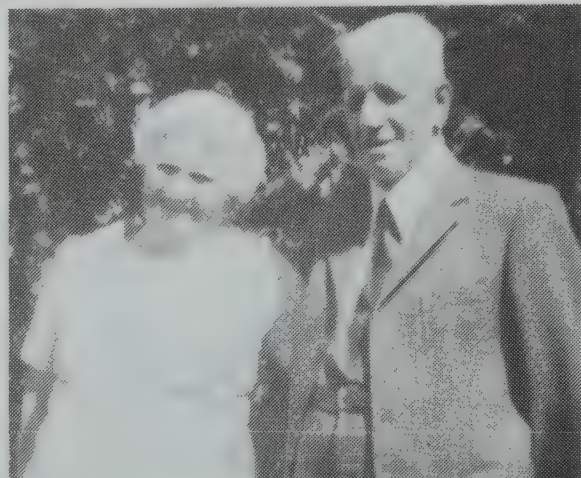
Stanley and Bessie Welwood on their Golden Wedding 1964.



Mr. and Mrs. Milton Yandt on their 50th Anniversary.



Golden Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Young. L-R back: George, Joe, Tom, Bob, Ray and Jim. Front L-R: Norman, Gladys, Isabel, Robert Young Sr., Sophia Young, Eva, Lily and Douglas.

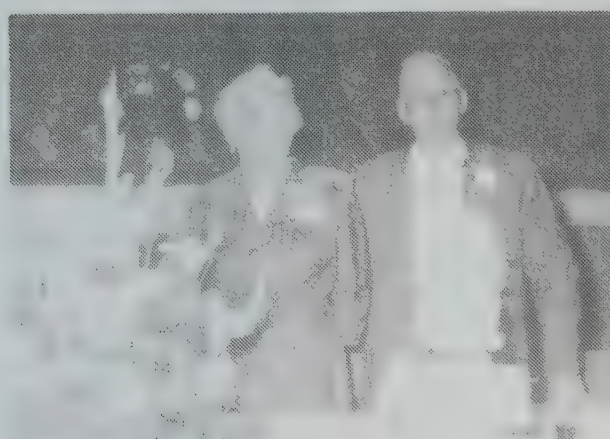


Mr. and Mrs. Louis Zollikofer Golden Wedding July 1974.

DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anderson 1982.



Mr. and Mrs. William Anderson Diamond Wedding Anniversary 1963.



Mr. and Mrs. Norton Hamar with children Florence, Dorothy, Norrie, George, Harold, Muriel, on their 60th Wedding Anniversary, 1963.



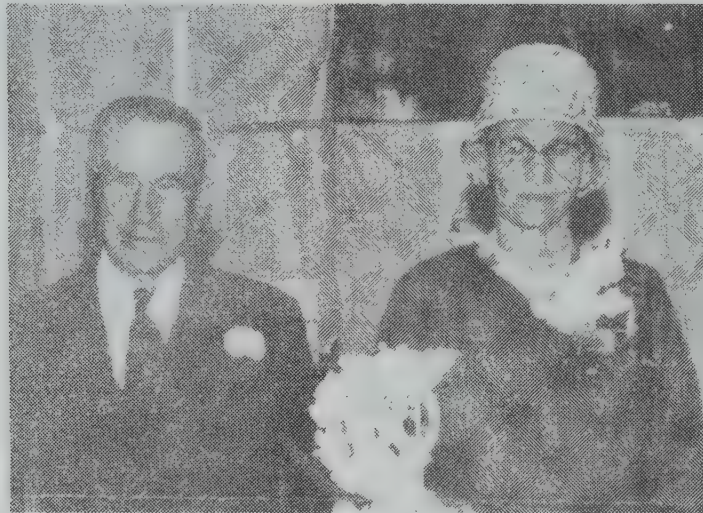
Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf Svicenec on their 60th Wedding Anniversary in 1979 with daughter Mary, sons Rudy and Henry.



Mr. and Mrs. John Stewart 60th Wedding Anniversary 1984.



Mr. and Mrs. Town on their 60th Wedding Anniversary.



Mr. and Mrs. Marion Woloszyn 60th Wedding Anniversary 1966.

We Have Lived and Loved Together

*We have lived and loved together
Through many changing years;
We have shared each other's gladness
And wept each other's tears;
And let us hope the future
As the past has been will be:
I will share with thee my sorrows,
And thou thy joys with me.*

DIAMOND PLUS WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Matthew and Margaret Smith on their 63 Wedding Anniversary.



Mr. and Mrs. Tom Mazeppa 1983 married 70 years.

PART VI
GLOSSARY

GLOSSARY

(Words and terms which may not be familiar to the young people of today)

- air-tight heater* a wood burning heater controlled by an air damper
- A. P. P.* Alberta Provincial Police
- A.R.D.A.* Agricultural Rural Development Act
- B and B gang* Bridge and Builder crews on the railroad
- bannock* (Scot) flat unleavened bread cooked on a griddle
- batched* lived as a bachelor, i.e. without a wife
- bedbugs* wingless, blood sucking insects
- Bennett buggy* a horse drawn rubber tired vehicle made from the chassis
of a car. Named after a one-time prime minister of
Canada during hard times.
- bob sleigh or sled* a short sled usually joined to another
- break(land)* the opening of virgin sod with a plow
- breaking plow* a plow with a moldboard to turn over virgin sod
- broad axe* axe with a broad blade used to hew timber
- broadcast* to scatter or sow seeds in all directions
- buffalo chips* dry dung of the buffalo used for fuel
- buggy* a light two or four wheeled carriage
- bulldozer* a tractor driven machine with a wide blade for clearing
land or building roads
- cant* to turn a log for sawing
- canter* one who turns logs in a mill
- canthook* a wooden lever with an iron hook to turn logs
- chinking* filling cracks in log buildings with moss or other materials
- chivaree* a noisy serenade to a newly wed couple
- clear(land)* to remove trees, brush, stumps, roots, etc. before plowing

<i>clevis</i>	a U shaped fitting for attaching other parts with a bolt or pin
<i>clutch</i>	a coupling used to connect and disconnect the driving part of a mechanism
<i>clutch</i>	a setting of eggs.
<i>coal oil (kerosene)</i>	a volatile oil distilled from petroleum
<i>commissary</i>	a store supplying provisions or personal equipment as in a lumber camp
<i>copper boiler</i>	a wash boiler coated with copper
<i>corset stays</i>	the stiff supports (bone or steel) in a corset
<i>corduroy</i>	a road built of logs laid side by side transversely over a swamp or wet place
<i>coulee</i>	a deep dry gulch with sides sloping less than a canyon
<i>creek</i>	a natural stream of water flowing to a river
<i>cradle</i>	an implement with rods like fingers attached to a scythe for harvesting grain
<i>crosscut saw</i>	a saw designed chiefly to cut across the grain of wood
<i>C. U. S. O.</i>	Canadian University Students Overseas
<i>Cyclone seeder</i>	a seeder used to sow grass seed, turned by hand scattering seeds in all directions
<i>democrat</i>	a horse drawn wagon with two or more seats
<i>double tree</i>	an evener for use with a two horse team
<i>drag (roads)</i>	a bottomless tractor-towed earth scraper
<i>dray</i>	a vehicle used to transport goods locally
<i>dry-pile</i>	to pile lumber so that it will dry and not warp
<i>dugout</i>	a hole dug for storage under a house
<i>file</i>	to place on government records, as to file on a homestead
<i>flat car</i>	a railroad freight car without permanent raised sides, ends or covering
<i>flail</i>	an instrument for threshing grain by hand, consisting of a wooden handle to which a stout, short stick is hung to swing freely

<i>flunky</i>	a cook's helper in a lumber camp
<i>ford</i>	a shallow part of a river that may be waded by man or animal
<i>fraction</i>	a part of a quarter section cut off by rivers, etc.
<i>fresno</i>	a wide shallow scraper for moving earth in road building
<i>grubbing</i>	to root out by digging
<i>grubhoe</i>	a kind of mattock or pickaxe
<i>gunnysack</i>	a bag made from jute sacking
<i>hamlet</i>	an unorganized village
<i>handmill</i>	a small hand-turned machine for grinding grain for flour or cereal
<i>headset</i>	a combination of receiver and flexible band worn on the head
<i>ice house</i>	a building used to store blocks of ice packed in sawdust
<i>jackladder</i>	a conveyor for moving logs from the river to the sawmill
<i>livery stable</i>	a stable where horses and vehicles were kept for hire
<i>lobstick</i>	a tree denuded of lower branches having the top ones pointing the direction
<i>Mediterranean Area</i>	that part of the Mediterranean area where battles were fought during World War II
<i>mine props</i>	timbers used for supports for mine workings
<i>moonshine</i>	liquor distilled illicitly
<i>morg or morgen</i>	a measurement of land, a little over two acres
<i>mule</i>	a hybrid between a jackass and a mare
<i>muskeg</i>	a wide marshy tract of land covered with moss
<i>naturalization papers</i>	papers needed to become a citizen
<i>neck yoke</i>	a crossbar connecting the neck harness of horses with the tongue of a vehicle
<i>niggerhead</i>	an outcrop of rock in a coal mine
<i>oakum</i>	a substance used for calking, often old rope
<i>oxcart</i>	usually a two wheeled cart pulled by oxen

<i>panning gold</i>	separating gold from earth and gravel by washing
<i>patent</i>	title to homestead
<i>peavey</i>	a lumberman's cant hook with a spike on the end
<i>pemmican</i>	an Indian preparation of buffalo meat or venison pounded with fat and berries
<i>pit boss</i>	underground boss in a mine
<i>props</i>	supports for mine excavations
<i>proved up</i>	to furnish proof of compliance with the Homestead Act to show conditions fulfilled to obtain patent
<i>quiklime</i>	unslaked lime, a white earth-like calcium oxide
<i>reels (dance)</i>	a lively dance for several couples
<i>reels (machinery)</i>	a revolving set of bars that feed grain stalks through a harvester
<i>relief</i>	assistance given by legislation to the indigent or unemployed
<i>ring bark</i>	to girdle a tree to kill it
<i>root cellar</i>	a place dug in the ground for storage of root vegetables
<i>rough lock</i>	to chain a wheel or sleigh runner going down hill, used as a brake
<i>Rupert's Land</i>	Land granted to the Hudson's Bay Company in 1670, being all regions draining into Hudson Bay
<i>sad iron</i>	a flat iron used for smoothing clothes and heated on a stove
<i>sans</i>	without
<i>scaler</i>	a man who recorded the number of board feet sawed
<i>scraper</i>	a horse drawn, two-handled scoop used for road making
<i>scythe</i>	a device used in mowing or reaping, a long curved blade with handle
<i>seed drill</i>	a machine used for sowing seeds in rows
<i>separator</i>	machines used to separate cream from milk or to separate grain from chaff
<i>sickle</i>	a reaping hook with a curved blade
<i>single tree</i>	a swinging horizontal cross bar to which are fastened the traces of the harness

skid (logs) to move logs with horse power, sliding them along the ground

slabs an outside piece sawed from a log

slaking lime a quicklime mixed with water, used in whitewash

Siwash sweaters heavy natural wool sweaters originally made by the Siwash Indians

slip another name for sloop, used in road building

sloop a scoop for moving earth, manure, etc.

spook to startle or frighten, as a horse

spruce hens small dark bush chickens, sometimes called fool hens

South African Scrip an entitlement to an area of land similar to a homestead, for service in the Boer War

squatter's rights the rights of settlers to the land they have settled

stoker a man who fired up the steam engine

stook a collection of sheaves set together in a field

stone boat a runnerless plank sled for hauling rocks

stump portion of a tree left after tree is felled

stumpage a tax paid on lumber cut, or on standing timber

stump puller a device to pull stumps

swamper one who clears away underbrush, and fallen debris for logging operations

swamp fever an infectious anemia of horses, caused by a virus

switchboard a panel of switches for connecting or disconnecting electric circuits, as a telephone exchange

tail sawyer a man who removed boards as they were sawed

tar paper a heavy tarred building paper

ties timbers of a railroad on which the rails are laid

timber limit several sections of land set apart for the cutting of lumber

timekeeper one who recorded the hours worked by employees

<i>toque</i>	a long woolen hat
<i>townsite</i>	the location of a group of buildings starting a town
<i>V. L. A.</i>	Veteran's Land Act
<i>wanigan</i>	a raft of square timber with a shanty fitted with sleeping and cooking accommodations for loggers on a river drive
<i>washboard</i>	a board with corrugated surface on which to rub clothes
<i>washtub</i>	a tub used for washing clothes
<i>waterglass</i>	sodium or potassium silicate soluble in water-used for preserving eggs
<i>water witch (dowse)</i>	the use of a divining rod to find water
<i>windcharger</i>	a machine using wind power to produce electricity
<i>windlass</i>	a device using a drum and rope to lift water from a well
<i>Winnipeg Couch</i>	a type of bed with sides that folded down

The following are family histories which mention the Foley Trail

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 H. E. Smith
 MacDiarmid
 Stanley Welwood
 Thomeus
 Amanda Jonsson
 Roy Hadley
 Johnny Bills
 W. J. Keen
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 Carl and Marie Miller
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PART VII
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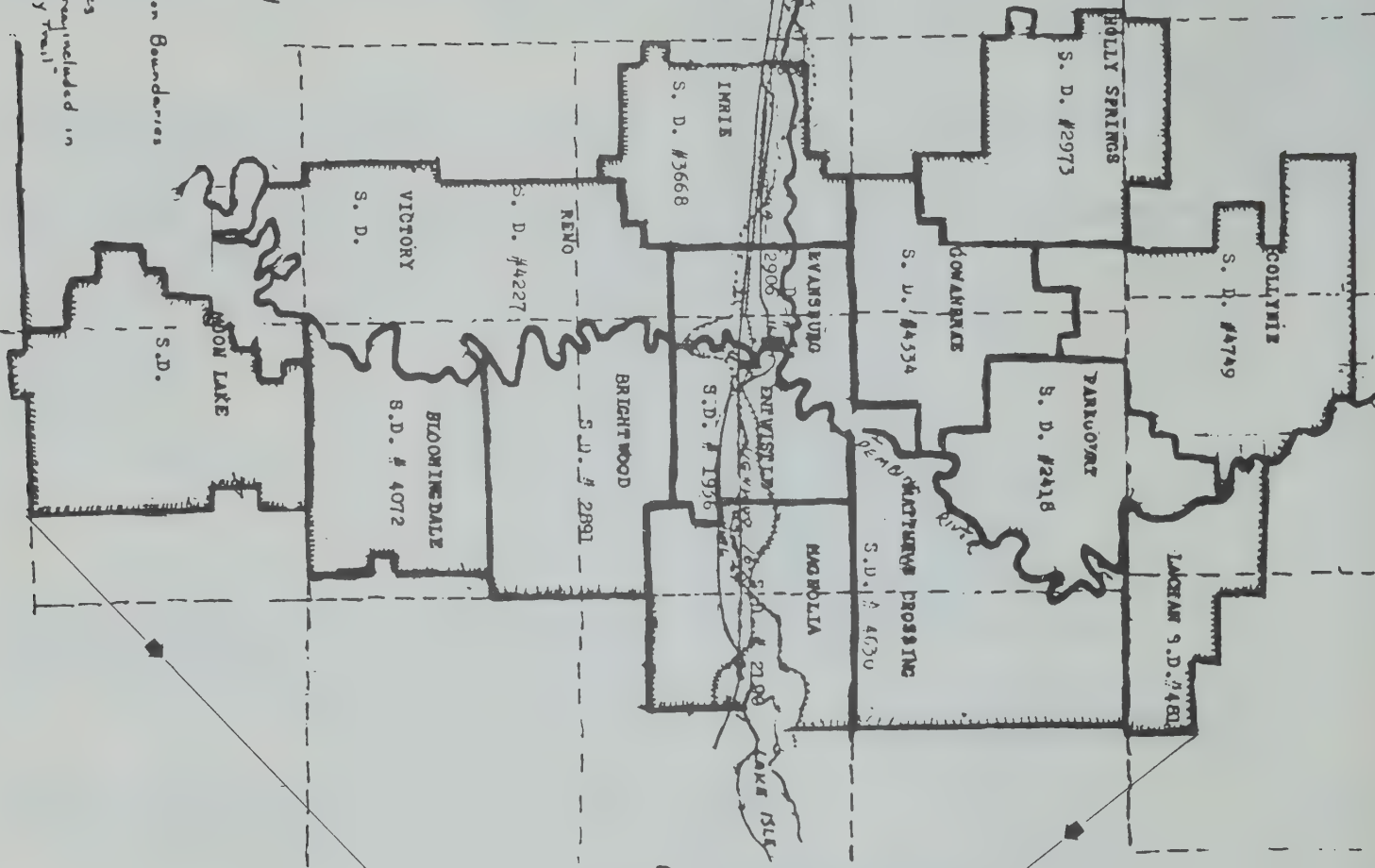
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